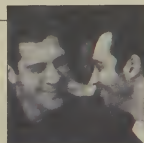


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Longtime political staffer and gay man
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No fadeouts here
The gay sex in 'Second Skin' is out front.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 47 • 22 November 2001

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Stop AIDS says it's in compliance with feds

by Cynthia Laird

A federal report made public last week concluded that some workshops offered by the Stop AIDS Project may have been too sexually explicit and out of compliance with federal guidelines, but the San Francisco nonprofit HIV prevention group insists that its programs meet the regulations.

As a result of an inquiry by Representative Mark Souter (R-Indiana), Health and Human Services Inspector General Janet Rehnquist reviewed materials offered in Stop AIDS' "Booty Call" and "Great Sex" workshops. Her report concluded that the sessions "could be viewed as encouraging, directly... sexual activity." And she said both could be viewed as "obscene." Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines say federally funded HIV/AIDS prevention programs must neither encourage sexual activity nor be "obscene" under the definition in a 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Steven Gibson, co-executive director of Stop AIDS, told the Bay Area Reporter last Friday that the agency is in compliance with the guidelines. Approximately \$686,000 of the agency's budget comes from federal funds, mainly through its cooperative agreement with the CDC. Another large chunk of its budget comes from the city's general fund.

"Those materials were approved by the review panel," Gibson said, referring to regulations that stipulate the review of materials by local panels. He added that there appears to be a double standard between the federal government criticizing the workshop materials as sexually explicit and the requirement that local panels approve the materials.

"Which is it?" he asked. "Local review or bureaucrats in D.C.?"

Noting that a Republican House member apparently instigated the inquiry, Gibson also pointed out that generally, the GOP favors states' rights and local control over federal intervention.

In a statement released November 16, Gibson said that Stop AIDS "has been working with the San Francisco Department of Public Health and CDC in Atlanta to ensure full compliance with federal restrictions relating to HIV prevention. All educational and promotional materials are reviewed by

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Steven Gibson

Gobble, gobble at area Thanksgiving dinners

by Katie Szymanski



"Daddy" Alan Selby, center, and others served up turkey and the fixings at last year's MCC-SF/Most Holy Redeemer Thanksgiving dinner. The two Castro churches, along with Tenderloin Tessie's and Glide, will offer holiday meals Thursday.

Folks who lack the funds for a Thanksgiving meal as well as those without a place to celebrate are invited to eat and/or volunteer at one of several LGBT-friendly dinners on Thursday, November 22.

Tenderloin Tessie's annual feast will take place on Thanksgiving from 1-4 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church at Franklin and Geary streets. This non-denominational gathering, in existence since the 1970s, serves close to 1,000 people at each holiday meal. Even more people are expected at this year's Thanksgiving dinner because of the downturn in the economy.

Although Tessie's already has a sufficient amount of food, volunteers are always welcome for set-up and kitchen shifts, serving, and clean-up. Servers should arrive no later than 12:30 p.m. but others can just show up and go to work. For more information on the dinner and volunteering, call Tenderloin Tessie's President Tom Basch at (415) 922-0422.

Thanksgiving dinner in the Castro will be jointly hosted by Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco and the Most Holy Redeemer congregation on Thursday at noon at 100 Diamond Street.

A few hundred people are expected at this event, and those interested in volunteering or donating should call (415) 865-2752 to learn what it is needed. Before dinner, a short church service will take place at 11 a.m. at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka Street.

Finally, Glide Memorial Church will be hosting a multi-faith gathering that will feed thousands of people on Thursday from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and again from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 330 Ellis Street. Volunteer shifts have already been covered but the event is in urgent need of donations, especially turkey and other food, and cash contributions.

"We are working side by side with our brothers and sisters in the Sikh, Muslim, and Jewish communities to ensure a holiday season that honors all faiths and our common humanity," said Glide Executive Director Janice Mirikitani. For more information, call (415) 674-6000. ▼

The new 'q-word'

Health officials say no quarantine for HIVers

by Cynthia Laird

When the November issue of *Washington Monthly* magazine came out, a few AIDS dissidents in the city seized upon a comment made by Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, head of the sexually transmitted disease unit of the San Francisco Department of Public Health. In the article, "When Rubbers Hit the Road," Klausner was asked what measures public health systems might take to stem the rate of HIV infection, if there were no regard for political reality.

He mentioned the word "quarantine." Specifically, the article attributed "quarantine for those who cannot control their infectivity," to Klausner.

A few vocal activists hit the roof, bombarding public health officials, prevention workers, other activists, and members of the media (including this paper) with hysterical and alleged threatening phone calls and sensational statements saying that it would just be a matter of time before gays with HIV were quarantined.

Nothing could be further from the truth, Klausner and other health officials told the Bay Area Reporter.

Asked if he advocates the quarantine of gay men who are HIV-positive, Klausner emphatically said, "No. Any idea that the San Francisco Department of Public Health supports quarantine is absolutely false."



Dr. Jeffrey Klausner

Steven Tierney, director of HIV prevention for DPH, also flatly denied that the city is considering or has considered a quarantine for gay men who are HIV-positive.

"DPH hasn't seriously discussed quarantine since the 1980s and at that time decided it was a bad idea," Tierney told the B.A.R. "People have asked if we have a policy and we do not."

Tierney said that DPH "spends a lot of time" trying to attract people at high risk for AIDS to various HIV prevention and risk reduction programs. Such people would likely stay away from such programs if quarantine was a policy of the Health Department.

He added that in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks and the subsequent outbreak of anthrax, other forms of possible bioterrorism have been discussed, particularly at the national level. One disease that's mentioned when discussing bioterrorism, he noted, is smallpox. Quarantine has been discussed at the national level in the event of a smallpox outbreak, Tierney said, because that disease—unlike HIV—is airborne and easily contagious.

But Tierney recoiled at the thought. "It's an awful word," Tierney said. "It's awful when applied."

For his part, Klausner, who has been branded as a Nazi by the AIDS denialists be-

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FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS



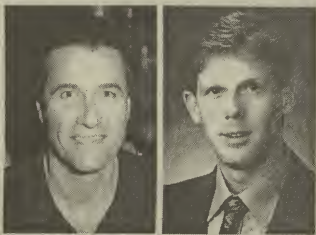
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Mayor walks Castro to promote economy

by Matthew S. Bajko

Ending a weeklong publicity stint to bolster consumer confidence and draw shoppers to the city's business districts, Mayor Willie Brown brought his message to the Castro last Friday, November 16.

And while stores were open for business, the mayor didn't open his wallet once to purchase merchandise. Instead, his staffers handed out stickers, T-shirts, and posters to merchants. Donated by a local printer and designer, each pictured an American flag fashioned like a shopping bag above the "America: Open for Business" theme.

"We are out trying to drum up business all over the city," Brown told merchants and shoppers as he walked down Castro from 19th Street. "Have a good holiday."

While the tour of the Castro was scheduled to begin at noon, the mayor found himself running on queer time and showed up nearly an hour late. Waiting for him to make his grand entrance outside Buffalo Whole Food and Grain Company were area business leaders, one former 49ers football star, city business boosters, and several police escorts.

"I started as a tight end and ended up a wide receiver," joked John Frank, explaining that he does not own the Market Street restaurant of the same name.

In fact, he played with the 49ers in two Superbowls, he said as he waited for the mayor. Frank, now a plastic surgeon, said he acts as an ambassador for the city on behalf of the mayor.

The mayor's shopping stroll seemed to brighten the spirits of passersby and patrons at the different shops. A diner at Luna Piena Caffè welcomed Brown's in-



Mayor Willie Brown hit the streets in the Castro last week.

terruption of his lunch and thanked the mayor for the work he has been doing.

An offer of a T-shirt to one worker, however, didn't go over quite as well. "I guess I could wear it to Club Universe," the man said.

Unlike many Castro shoppers, the mayor didn't peruse the porn or check out prices on lubricants at Rock Hard, though he did fancy the fanciful socks at Citizen.

"Those are great looking socks. Now I know where to go to get them," said Brown. "Those are some wild looking socks."

Surprised seniors waiting at the Muni bus stop at the corner of Castro and 18 Streets smiled at the sight of the city leader. One gentleman, who had seen Brown earlier that morning on television, inquired about the mayor's future political plans.

"I don't know yet about 2004, but I got the presidency on my list for 2008," quipped the mayor.

As Lawrence Ozoa, the mayor's liaison to District 8, had feared, the mayor's visit did encounter

one heckler of sorts. Clad in leather chaps and sporting a bleached blonde hairdo, one man stopped the mayor to complain about the community's unappreciative responses to his singing capabilities.

"The Castro has mostly mocked me. I will not compromise my artistic integrity for anyone," ranted the man before storming off.

No sooner than the mayor could scratch his head in puzzlement, a woman ran up to present him with a calendar in thanks of his visit.

"He is the mayor of our city and deserves our respect. I don't always agree with him, but I wanted to let him know I like what he is doing," explained Leslie Gigniliat, owner of Amber Lotus publishing, as to why she gave Brown the 2002 calendar of Japanese gardens in America.

And only moments before Brown popped into Globba, a worker had been scraping off a

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Annual Milk march Tues., Nov. 27

by Katie Szymanski

The LGBT community is now in its 23rd year of remembering the murders of Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone, and this year, like every year before, the annual memorial march will take place on Tuesday, November 27.

What started as an impromptu vigil on the night in 1978 that Supervisor Dan White gunned down the first openly gay elected official in California has evolved into a tradition that often incorporates re-

membrance with current events relevant to Milk's ideals. Last year, the march celebrated the return of district elections, a cause championed by Milk and a process largely credited with his election in 1977. This year the march will emphasize LGBT officeholders and recognize that three such candidates (Supervisor Mark Leno, former Supervisor Harry Britt, and lesbian politico Holly Thier) are running against each other for the 13th District's state Assembly seat in the Democratic primary in March.

The Milk march begins at 7 p.m. and will depart from Harvey

Milk Plaza at Castro and Market streets, proceeding down to the Civic Center for a program of speakers, including Bay Area Reporter political columnist Wayne Friday, candidate Britt, and Jim Rivaldo, campaign manager for city attorney candidate Dennis Herrera. The march is BYOC - bring your own candles - although a few will be available for participants.

The Milk march, sponsored by the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, is a community event; friends and family are encouraged to attend. The event usually runs about two hours. ▼

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LGBT clubs unite behind Dennis Herrera

by Katie Szymanski

It's not often that the city's two LGBT Democratic clubs agree, much less work together. In fact, "It has never happened in a political race," according to Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club President Jerry Threet, "in the five years I have been involved with the club."

But the Milk Club and the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club are putting aside past differences to unite behind one candidate for city attorney, Dennis Herrera. On Tuesday, November 13, 74 percent of the membership voted to endorse Herrera because of his positions on both LGBT and progressive concerns. The Alice Club voted to endorse Herrera prior to the November 6 election.

Herrera and Jim Lazarus face each other in a December 11 runoff. They garnered the most votes on November 6, but not the majority plus one to win outright.

"It was an eye-opening meeting," said Threet of the most recent endorsement discussions. "Folks talked about the history of where Lazarus had been in the past and they feel very strongly

that he will be horrible on queer and progressive issues. He won't say so publicly, because you can't do that anymore, but when it comes to decision making he just won't go our way."

Threet said that the club had many concerns about Lazarus, including his past opposition to domestic partnership benefits, and his recent campaign mailers funded by PG&E. On issues like rent control, "Lazarus is claiming that he wrote the rent control ordinance, when in fact he wrote a version of the law that eliminated vacancy control; he's never been in our camp," said Threet. "It's that kind of slick political posturing he's doing that's really troubling."

LGBT voters are also growing tired of Lazarus's claim that he was instrumental in helping the city recover from the 1978 assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk when he was a deputy city attorney, a statement that many say is exaggerated in order to win more gay support.

Lazarus did not return phone calls from the *Bay Area Reporter* seeking comment on exactly what his role was during that troubled time. And while Lazarus emphasizes his relationship with the now LGBT-popular U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein, for whom he was a longtime assistant, his advertisements interestingly refer back to his relationship with Feinstein in the 1970s and 1980s, an era in which she led a crackdown on gay cruising and vetoed domestic partnership legislation.

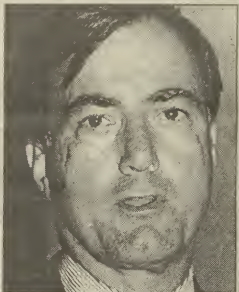
On the other side of the race is a person that several LGBT and progressive advocates have called a "stark contrast" to Lazarus, despite mainstream media portrayal of the two men as similar candidates. Unlike Lazarus, Herrera's pro-



Dennis Herrera

gressive and LGBT background includes recent support for the public power measure Proposition F; developing sensitivity training for police officers, including an overhaul of the Police Department on terms of how trans-genders are treated; unyielding support for domestic partnership and the city's equal benefits ordinance; and advocacy on behalf of lower-income and immigrant residents traditionally under-represented in the justice system. He is a former member and past president of the Police Commission, a board member of the Court Appointed Special Advocate program for at-risk youth, a past treasurer for the San Francisco Democratic Party, a board member

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Jim Lazarus

Time to register for runoff

by Katie Szymanski

Modest as the San Francisco December 11 ballot may be, there's no excuse for not voting, particularly when such an important office is at stake.

If you are not yet registered to vote, the last day to do so is Monday, November 26 at 5 p.m. The only race on the ballot is the runoff for city attorney.

Voter registration forms are available at public libraries, post offices, county clerk offices, the Department of Motor Vehicles, The Secretary of State's office (1-800-345-VOTE) or the Department of Elections.

For San Franciscans who are out of the area or who would rather vote by mail, absentee voting is still an option. Those who voted absentee in the November 6 election will automatically receive a December ballot. Those who have not previously voted absentee, as well as those who specified that they would not vote absentee in a run-off, can still do so by submitting a request by Tuesday, December 4, no later than 5 p.m. Requests can be in a letter or postcard to the Department of Elections and must include the voter's name, birthdate, residential address, mailing address, and the date of the election, in this case, Decem-

ber 11. Requests can be faxed to (415) 554-4372 or mailed to 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Another method would be to tear out, complete, and mail the absentee ballot application from the back cover of the runoff information packet, due to hit mailboxes within the next week. Additionally, ballot applications can be picked up in person at the Department of Elections.

The timeline gets a little trickier for people not yet registered who are also voting absentee; in that case, according to a DOE spokesperson, the quick route to registering and voting would be through the secretary of state's office.

Actual absentee ballots must arrive no later than 8 p.m. on election day in order to be counted.

Finally, to beat the crowds, early voting will be offered from Monday November 26 until December 11. The Department of Elections will be open for early voting on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you're in the neighborhood on December 11 you can also vote at the department from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. that day. The office is located in the City Hall basement.

For more information, call (415) 554-4375 or visit www.sfgov.org/election. ▼

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Sticky situation

by Jane Warner

2700 block of Market, November 13, 9:30 p.m.: A man heard loud voices outside his apartment. When he opened his door, he saw a past acquaintance and a strange woman standing in the hallway. Suddenly, a third person appeared in the doorway and pointed a gun in his face. The three pushed their way into the apartment, forced the man to the floor, and tied his hands behind his back with duct tape. The assailants pulled his pants down and duct-taped his ankles, eyes, and mouth, then taped him to a coffee table. After ransacking the apartment, the robbers threatened to kill the man if he didn't tell them where he hid the money and drugs. Fearing for his life, the man told them over \$3,000 was in the bedroom closet. After finding what they had come for, the men left the apartment. The woman, however, stayed behind, telling the victim that her friends were plotting to kill him but that she convinced them to leave. The woman gave the man some sleeping pills and cut the tape from his body. The woman then left, taking the man's BMW, telling him she'd re-

turn it in the morning. Affected by the pills, the victim fell asleep. When he woke up the next afternoon he called police and reported the robbery. Officers responded to the scene and dusted several items for fingerprints.

Caught red-handed

Ford at Noe, November 14, 2:35 a.m.: A man was walking home

after work when suddenly he heard a vehicle pull up behind him. Two men wearing ski masks jumped out of the car as a third suspect stayed behind the wheel. The men pointed handguns and demanded the victim's money. After taking the victim's money

and backpack, one of the robbers threatened, "If you're not out of my sight by the count of three we are going to shoot you." The victim ran to 15th and Market and called police, giving a detailed description of the suspects and their car. As a police cruiser sped to the scene, a vehicle matching the description passed at a high rate of speed. The cruiser made a U-turn and gave chase. As they followed the car eastbound on 18th toward Dolores, officers observed a backpack being tossed out the window. A few blocks later, a gun was also thrown out. After numerous po-

lice cruisers joined the pursuit, the vehicle was pulled over and the three robbers were taken into custody. Two ski masks and the victim's driver's license were discovered on the floor of the car. The backpack and gun were recovered a few blocks away and placed into evidence. The three suspects, ages 19, 20, and 21, were taken to Mission Station and booked for armed robbery.

Slip of the tongue

Badlands bar, 4121 18th Street, November 17, 1:15 a.m.: A man, apparently unaware to whom he was speaking, approached the doorman of the bar and tried to sell him drugs. "I'm selling party favors," he allegedly told the doorman, "Want to buy some speed, cocaine, or ecstasy?" The doorman informed the man he was the bouncer and told him to leave before he called the police. "If you do, I'll shoot you," the suspect said, then put his hand inside his coat pocket as if he had a gun. The doorman went inside and called the police, and shortly thereafter a squad car arrived to drive the doorman around and look for the suspect. The doorman spotted the suspect outside the Bar on Castro, and the officer detained the man, searching him for drugs and illegal weapons with negative results. The 44-year-old suspect, who had previously been arrested 61 times, was taken to Mission Station and booked for felony terrorist threats. ▼

Convicted killer Josh Puckett in trouble again

by Ed Walsh

Convicted killer Josh Puckett is facing new charges that could result in the former XY magazine coverboy getting a life sentence under the three-strikes law for allegedly assaulting a fellow state prison inmate, the Bay Area Reporter has learned.

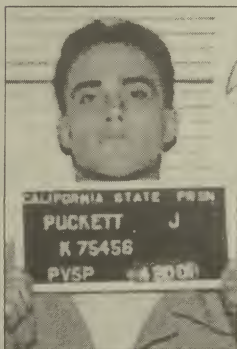
Puckett, 21, will be arraigned on December 10 in Fresno on the charge of "battery of an inmate causing serious injury."

According to Lieutenant Paul Sanchez of the Pleasant Valley State Prison in Coalinga where Puckett is serving time, on June 20, while Puckett was walking

alongside another inmate, "without warning, and with no provocation," he swung at the other inmate on the side of the head and knocked him unconscious. The inmate was carried away on a stretcher and was treated in the prison's hospital. The incident was reported to the Fresno County District Attorney's office, which recently decided to take up the case for prosecution.

In correspondence with the B.A.R., Puckett claimed he's being railroaded. He said he punched the other prisoner after the man kicked him, causing Puckett to lose his balance and almost fall. Puckett told the B.A.R. that the

page 17 ►



Josh Puckett



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Coalition for Affordable Public Services

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OPEN FORUM

A different Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is different this year: the national holiday for giving thanks has been made more poignant in the wake of the terrorist attacks on America. Thousands of people lost their lives on September 11, and we in the LGBT community grieve over our losses too. The deaths and destruction on that Tuesday morning more than two months ago were catastrophic and the aftereffects have reverberated from coast to coast.

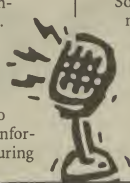
As we prepare to celebrate the holiday, we are confronted with increased security measures that are now part of everyday life. At home, we are trying on the one hand to be alert to suspicious activities and on the other to get on with our lives while the nation is at war in Afghanistan.

Although there is much for which to be thankful, some changes are not so welcome and may be cause for concern. We are increasingly worried about the federal government's decision to establish military tribunals for suspected terrorists and other restrictive investigatory procedures spearheaded by Attorney General John Ashcroft in the recently signed "Patriot Act." We're concerned because, to us, it seems the country may be sliding down a slippery slope that will result in the erosion of civil liberties.

As in much of the country, the Bay Area is in the midst of an economic downturn that was only exacerbated by the attacks. Industry layoffs have forced many in the community (who last year were celebrating as part of the dot-com boom) to look for work or return to school.

Yet, one of the positive changes in recent months has been the effort toward tolerance for those of the Islamic faith; and we in the LGBT community have been among those strongly condemning the anti-Arab back-

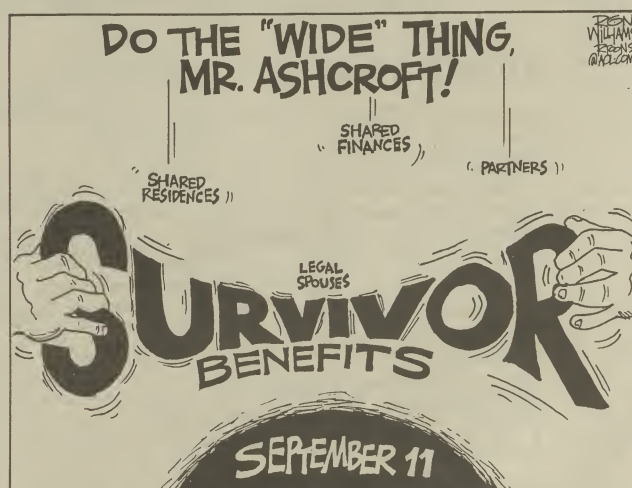
lash that was especially prevalent immediately following September 11. The intolerance continues, however: just last week news reports broadcast remarks made by the Reverend Franklin Graham (son of evangelist Billy Graham), who spoke of the "evil" of Islam. His unfortunate comments—made public during the start of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan—come at a time when our country should be united firmly against prejudice of any kind.



Editorial

So enjoy the holiday, but take time to remember those whose lives were lost or forever altered by the recent tragedy. If you are in need of fellowship, there are several local community groups hosting Thanksgiving dinners. See the story on page one for information about how you can help or attend events provided by Tenderloin Tessie's, Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco, Most Holy Redeemer Church, and Glide Memorial Church.

Have a happy Thanksgiving. ▼



No justice, no peace

Why LGBT men, women should support the war

by Vince Quackenbush

The United States is at war. This is not a happy fact. It is, however, a fact. This war will be neither easy nor short. The queer community should support our government's efforts to prosecute this war. American territory has been directly attacked, and close to 6,000 of our citizens and legal visitors have been butchered.

It is a fundamental right and duty of a state to defend its soil and citizens. Under any interpretation of international law, the United States has the right to act to defend its citizens. Under the Constitution it has the duty to do so.

The United States government must pursue vigorous, measured retaliatory actions against Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda network, as well as the vicious, reactionary, fascist, fundamentalist, and anti-women Taliban and other groups who form the amorphous international terror network. It is absurd, to the point of being ridiculous, to suppose that any measures short of war, can in any way, bring justice to victims of the terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania or in any way work to prevent its repeat.

What state in the Middle East can (or will) hand over the arch-criminals under bin Laden, when the "Islamic Street" revels in the September 11 tragedy and believes such anti-Semitic slurs as the "Jewish conspiracy" to destroy the World Trade Center? The answer of course, is none.

What World Court can stop the groups which report to no government, and will obviously resort to suicide attacks using Boeing airlines, possible bioterrorism, or "dirty nuclear weapons"? The answer, of course, is none.

Can we allow organizations to run rampant through the world who have demonstrated no limitations upon themselves, and who will use any means to kill innocent American citizens? The answer, of course, is no.

It is difficult to favor war; however, historically, some wars, like World War II and

the American Civil War, have been necessary and justified. Lawyers and philosophers have struggled for centuries and have formulated the theory of the "just war." Among other requirements, it requires a legal provocation, and achievable goal, and measured responses. It is clear that all these requirements have been met. There can be no end to terrorist attacks on the American people through any remedy proposed by the so-called peace movement. It is naive to claim that any justice can be achieved through any actions of our government other than measured, proportional retaliation against the terrorists and any states that shelter them.

Some of the critics of the U.S. involvement in this war say that "we" have brought this on ourselves through our foreign policies. This is self-hatred, pure and simple.

I will not blame the United States government for the 6,000 dead in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. Not this time. I cannot blame the irrational behavior of bin Laden's sect on the (invited) American occupation of Saudi Arabia.

I will not blame the United States for throwing our economy and our workers into a deeper recession. The wanton destruction of the twin towers by the terrorists was responsible for that.

There can be no equation between the American sanctions toward the criminal Iraqi state and the terrorist attacks upon New York and Washington.

I will not allow the criminal use of deadly biological agents in our cities without my government taking measures to insure the common defense.

I don't blame George Bush for the public's fear of air travel. Suicidal Islamic nut cases did that.

I will not stand idly by when the so-called peace movement freely equates the sometimes dubious policies of the U.S. with the sheer butchery of Osama bin Laden and his terrorist cohorts.

I will no longer allow statements to be made, without answer, that the United States leans too heavily in Israel's favor, and thus "causes" these terrorist atrocities.

The United States brokered the tenuous peace that exists between Israel, Egypt, and Jordan. It brokers today the ongoing, though painfully slow and imperfect, peace process between Israel and the PLO. I will not stay silent when I hear Israel-bashing by the phony peace front. For all its faults, Israel has made peace with Egypt and Jordan, and has been in negotiations with the Palestinians. Israel has returned most of the territory it "occupied" after defeating its enemies in the wars of 1967 and 1973. And until recently, it has been in negotiations with the Palestinian Authority.

I will no longer stay silent when the relatively few, deplorable, but anecdotal incidents of anti-Islamic and anti-Arab activities in the United States are associated with the United States' efforts to bring bin Laden and his thug gangsters to justice. These incidents have been roundly denounced by people of good will on all sides of the "war issue." Does anyone seriously believe that there is any likelihood that we will repeat the Japanese-American internment tragedy? To connect these few incidents somehow with the military actions of the U.S. government is consciously manipulative and downright dishonest.

I urge all lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender people to cease being silent in face of the manipulative, self-hating rhetoric of the so-called peace movement. Confront their specious arguments in the political clubs, and in the bars. We should stand with the citizens of New York City and Washington. We should not enlist in this so-called peace movement. ▼

Vince Quackenbush is a gay union member in the United Educators of San Francisco, AFL-CIO.

LETTERS

What's the real agenda?

I read with great interest the guest opinion about ACT UP/SF and their semi-psychotic behavior ["Enough is enough," November 15]. I also recently read a book that puts a lot of things in a clearer light these days. The book is titled *It's Never About What It's About*, making the point that our behavior and emotional reactions are seldom about the things we say or think they are about; rather, they are about some deep emotional trauma that is acting itself out in inappropriate ways. The book also challenges the reader to find out what these issues and behaviors are really about by doing some inner work and asking some difficult questions. I think the formula applies extremely well to this group of disturbed individuals who represent no one but themselves.

What is their real agenda other than their desperate need for attention? For example, why does a group sell medical marijuana, making hundreds of thousands of dollars, to people with AIDS, while at the same time claiming that AIDS doesn't even exist? What's that really about? Could it be money? After years of seeing that their tactics don't change anything or convince anyone, why don't they get involved in policy making and try to convince people by adopting a civilized, rational approach? Whatever this group is about, it surely isn't about AIDS, or people's health care, or improving anyone's quality of life (except maybe their own).

These people have proven they are dangerous. Why I can't understand is why they are allowed to roam our streets. If we have decided to clamp down on terrorists, we certainly don't need to travel to Afghanistan to do it. Start with these people.

Sophie K. Padgett
San Francisco

IGLHRC director responds

Dale Carpenter ["More follies of the anti-war gay left," *Out Right*, November 15] misrepresents my views and those of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. We'd be foolish to ignore anti-U.S. sentiment around the world. We should address it not by touting our generosity, but our regard for human rights and democracy.

IGLHRC is not seeking to "understand" the terrorists, but rather to try them in an international court of justice, where they can be tried and punished as they deserve. The U.S. opposes the establishment of such a court, preferring bombs instead.

There is nothing wrong with patriotism, but a lot wrong with the USA Patriot Act. That's nationalism. It deprives immigrants of elementary civil rights. It is precisely now, when we face collective danger that we need respect for law and human rights the most.

Surina Khan, Executive Director
International Gay and Lesbian
Human Rights Commission
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Ideologically narrow

I find it particularly interesting that Dale Carpenter considers those opposed to the war in Afghanistan leftists. Surely, many pro-life Catholics against the war wouldn't define themselves as "leftists," but I guess it fits more easily into his ideologically narrow world to lump everyone he disagrees with into an "us versus them" category.

If he wants support of the war, which now translates as the support for the Northern Alliance takeover of Kabul, to be a right-wing issue, then he should know the following: during the period between 1992-1996, the NA was the symbol of massacre and systemic rape in Afghanistan. The last time they left Kabul, they left behind a "gift" of 50,000 bodies. That certainly doesn't make them any crueler than the Taliban, but when do we stop to evaluate the level of standards we deem acceptable in our "allies"? As we speak, summary executions by NA forces are taking place under the auspices of the U.S. military; representative of a country whose Constitution strictly forbids such acts of violence, at least on its own citizens. If Mr. Carpenter wants to claim that hollow victory, then by no means shall we horrible "leftists" stand in his, nor anyone else's, way.

He claims that we "leftists" think America is a "bad country that sometimes does good things." Well, speaking personally, I can honestly say that I sometimes think that. I mean, it becomes hard not to when you see the anti-gay murders, a corrupt healthcare system, a disintegrating social net, and an ever-growing underclass either in prison or hopelessly poor. But if we disliked it so much, why would we even care? Why would we even bother to try to change things or speak out? Perhaps it could be that we love our country so much that we often give our lives fighting for the betterment of it?

For this, Mr. Carpenter demonizes us; we, who through our struggles, obtained his freedom to be out.

Unlike Mr. Carpenter, we anti-war activists have never made someone's personal political beliefs (or sexual orientation) a litmus test to be accepted in opposing the war. In fact, upon closer examination, you

will find people against the war come in many political stripes. Sadly, in typical reactionary fashion that has generally defined them, Mr. Carpenter's right-wing family abhors such openness. If such right-wingers as Norah Vincent, Andrew Sullivan, and yes, Dale Carpenter, came out against the war, that would be wonderful. Yet something tells me that real objectivity on this issue is a goal they will predictably fail to reach.

Kevin Weaver
San Francisco

Confusing nationalism with patriotism

I am writing in strong objection to Dale Carpenter's November 15 commentary, "More follies of the anti-war gay left." It would be hard in one letter to go through his piece thoroughly, fraught as it is with logical and literal inconsistencies. It is hard to believe that the writer actually earned a law degree. Then again, his (one would assume) hero, G.W. Bush somehow graduated Yale.

Let me point out just three of his most serious errors: 1) He uses the assertion that it is only a minority of people who disagree with his pro-war stance to legitimize the validity of his argument. This is not only and obviously ridiculous fallacy, it suggests that Mr. Carpenter, like many pro-war militants, has little grasp of history. Does he know, for example, that as few as 15 percent of colonists originally advocated revolution when the declaration was signed against England? Did their being in the minority make them wrong?

2) Mr. Carpenter confuses nationalism with patriotism in his attack on Ms. Surina Khan, director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. Patriotism is true love of country; nationalism is a false feeling of one's own country's superiority over all others. It is nationalism that she rightfully spoke out against and the link she referred to between rabid nationalism and homophobia is well documented. The pro-war crowd may wave as many Walgreens flags as they want (none of which, by the way, are actually made in the USA), but that hardly means they have any appreciation or respect whatsoever for the ideology of liberty and justice for all that that banner was traditionally meant to symbolize.

3) Finally, one must question Carpenter's obvious desire to get around the truth, to avoid any but a superficial understanding of the underlying causes of anti-American feeling in the Middle East, which is the catalyst of all attacks against Americans. Our government has a policy of handing dollar bills to Muslim children orphaned by our military's bombing and trade embargoes while our gas and oil industries make billions of dollars by our Middle Eastern interventions and manipulations. By not changing the basic thrust of our Middle Eastern policy and further complicating it with Bush's indefinite "war on terrorism" which it seems he would like to extend ad infinitum (it keeps his numbers up), we are not really fighting terror at all, but multiplying it and sowing many new seeds of discontent and revenge.

It is not un-American to point that out — far from it. Especially in critical times as these, one has the duty and certainly the right to speak the truth sagely for one's country that God's grace and light might truly shine on us, and for the whole world as well. If we have no respect for other nations, we cannot truly be proud of ourselves. I do not think for an instant that those for the war are more patriotic than those against it; for example, many for the war are far more concerned about their physical safety than their civil liberties: Do they not hear the words of Patrick Henry, a real patriot, echoing through history "Give me liberty or give me death."

Carpenter attempts to portray his fellow gays as foolish, silly, or awkward for having the great courage to take an unpopular and prophetic stance. Does not he himself feel just a wee bit silly for defending this war and the appointed president, who is its commander-in-chief, and who would never even permit him to serve in that war as an openly gay man? A commander-in-chief incidentally, who is no more wise, no more intelligent and no more democratically elected now than he was before September 11.

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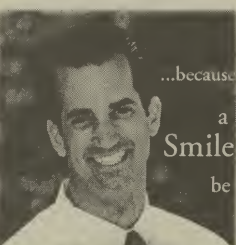
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The Reverend Mychal Judge, chaplain for the New York Fire Department, who died administering last rites at the World Trade Center. He spoke out publicly against the exclusion of gays from the St. Patrick's Day Parade and came to many gay and AIDS causes dressed as a Franciscan monk.

A gay couple from Los Angeles, Ronald Gamboa and Dan Brandhorst, and their adopted 3-year-old son, who died in one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center.

The copilot of American Airlines Flight 77, David Charlebois, which crashed into the Pentagon, who was openly gay, as was flight attendant Jeffrey Coleman on Flight 93.

David Angell, executive producer of *Frasier*, who was instrumental in the fight against Dr. Laura Schlessinger.

"Home for the Holidays" is a community tradition, and we feel it is important and appropriate that we come together not only to celebrate the holiday season, but also to remember those who will not be with us this year.

Dr. Kathleen McGuire, Artistic Director
San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

The Olympic vote

Shame on the Board of Supervisors, and especially Tom Ammiano and Mark Leno, for voting for the crass commercialism and bigotry of the U.S. Olympic Committee. How soon we forget the USOC's malicious, mean-spirited, homophobic attack on Dr. Tom Waddell and his Gay Olympics. Before that challenge and since then, the USOC has never taken any other organization to court over the use of the term "Olympics." And now our openly gay supervisors are welcoming the USOC to San Francisco with open arms. May the Olympic fairy pee in your Starbucks coffee tomorrow morning.

Rebecca Woo
San Francisco

Public defender race

I worked with our Public Defender Kimiko Burton during the past five years when she headed the city's Criminal Justice Council.

Kimiko is an incredible person. She has the depth of commitment, intellect, and compassion that we want representing clients without a voice in the criminal justice system.

Kimiko also has outstanding experience from leading the collaboration of our city's public safety and criminal justice agencies. She rightly focused our juvenile justice resources toward successful new programs to change the lives of at-risk youth.

The Life Learning Academy charter high school on Treasure Island, run by the Delancey Street Foundation, and the Bayview Safe Haven for youth are just two of the highly successful programs developed under her tenure.

As our public defender, Kimiko is already taking necessary steps to revitalize this office and help every client. She is a strong leader and manager and someone with great ethics and integrity. She is a great choice for San Francisco public defender.

Bevan Dufty
San Francisco

A washed-out Castro

After having hung out (and lived) in the Castro for the almost continuous span of years from 1973 to now, I have come up with the sad conclusion of its tragic outcome: a washed-out neighborhood rife with cynicism and homophobia, with but little more than lip-service as to its gay hospitality. The same can be said for this entire "gay mecca": rotten to the core like you'd never believe. For the sake of brevity, allow me to focus solely on the neighborhood I facetiously call "home," described in maps of this unfair city as Eureka Valley:

I am both a freelance LGBTQ (or "queer" or "gay") activist, and a homeless (or "houseless" or "residentially challenged") advocate (and formerly homeless myself). Thus, I have intimate knowledge of the street scene, as well as of the privileged classes blessed with roofs over their (for-the-most-part) clueless heads. While these same bourgeoisie skirt around and ignore the street subculture — hopping to and fro as is their nature, to their jobs, homes, and this-or-that social event and club circuits — a burgeoning populace of dysfunctional and desperate homeless threatens to break through weakened class barriers, and flood the neighborhoods of the privileged with wave after wave of outrage and rebellion. (A fate which, I might add, will be well-deserved if conditions are not rapidly improved by those who have the power and affluence to turn things around.)

The answer to this problem is not to strengthen these barriers. The solution, of course, is to provide compassionate program to these unfortunate souls

who, for the most part, have done nothing bad to deserve such incredible misfortunes. The solution is: setting up basic, decent no-income housing for these folks, along with appropriate medical and social services required, for as long as required, and wholesome recreation and job training that lends dignity and hope to all. The mark of a truly civilized nation is benevolence and a fair shake to all citizens, regardless of their present financial or medical situation ... and regardless of how long each client requires to become fully recovered. And we (of America) certainly have the resources, know-how, and wealth to accomplish this honorable mission. But do enough of us have the will or desire? That, my friends, is the real crux of the problem: class discrimination, ignorance, and hatred.

But we here in the Castro — and other so-called gay neighborhoods — suffer the additional burden of wave after wave of homeless people who are virulently or surreptitiously homophobic. After all, many of them hail from the Bible Belt and other conservative areas, including most of California. This ugly situation results in our own gay (or queer) homeless being terrorized and driven out not just by arrogant homeowners and renters (many of whom are also gay); but also by the many hetero and closeted homeless who seek safe refuge (and/or easy marks) here in gay mecca. This latest influx of homeless to the Castro includes a rise in gay hatred, hence more dangerous streets for one and all who frequent and live in this area.

Rather than fire blame and hatred on all deemed homeless, I'd much rather cultivate a safe haven for our genuinely gay needy, and drive out the homophobes. However, I do not see this happening, considering all the class hatred so rife in the Castro, and in the entire city. This ugly situation not only exacerbates rage among the dysfunctional homeless, but lots more gay bashing — both verbal and physical. Personally, I experience daily threats against me, due to my socializing on the streets. Most of the time, these are not direct threats, but offhand hateful remarks such as: "Ew. Butt-fucking is so disgusting. I don't see how you can live like that," and "If you don't have any attraction to a female, I don't see how you can be really human." Of course, there is the constant name-calling on the streets among the homeless, with the most common expletive being (of course) "faggot." My request to one guy to stop using that word when angry at someone, almost led to my being bashed. And he was someone who had always been kind to me, until that moment.

Each person who considers my plea must look deep into her heart, and find some way to strengthen and improve their quality of lives by some form of intelligent, responsible outreach to our queer homeless, and their too-few hetero friends who are also without a roof. To put a smile on any of these kind faces, is to be a saint yourself.

The refusal of the Castro (and our city at large), to accommodate our queer (and queer-friendly) homeless with grace and commitment, is shameful, to say the least. The rising tide of street homophobia is equally shameful, and very dangerous to anyone who uses our streets.

Ezekiel J. Krahlin
San Francisco

Leather weekend a success

On behalf of the Russian River leather family and the entire North Coast leather community, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who came to Guerneville and participated in the Russian River Leather Weekend, November 8-12. From my co-contestants in the Mr. North Coast Leather contest (we will always be the Fab 4) to our first-rate panel of judge, emcees and helpers, the masters of the SM demonstrations, our vendors, and mostly you, our honored guests; it was a weekend we will never forget. I hope you all left with some treasured memories; I know you have left many behind.

Many thanks as well to everyone at Fife's, the Russian River Resort, the Rainbow Cattle Company, the Russian River Eagle, and all the other businesses who welcomed my brothers and sisters in leather. It is further proof that we live in one of the best places in the world. To Jake at the Eagle: Yee-haa! No words are available to thank you and your staff for everything. For T. Jay Cain, our outgoing Mr. North Coast Leather, thank you. You've left tall boots to fill and set the bar very high, with more than \$30,000 raised for charities. My first runner-up, Jim Peterson, and I promise to work very hard to make you proud.

In closing, my thanks again to our entire leather family for all that they've done to support us. Jim and I promise to make sure all are welcomed with open arms and ensure that every visit to the River will always be the best and most fun it can be. It honors us to know that our family considers the River to be their home away from home.

Remember that in leather, we are always family.

Rodger Jensen
Mr. North Coast Leather 2002
Guerneville, California

POLITICS

The race for governor is off and running

by Wayne Friday

Former Los Angeles Mayor **Richard Riordan**, already the acknowledged front-runner in the March 2002 Republican primary contest to decide who will take on Democratic Governor **Gray Davis** next November, has challenged his two GOP opponents, California Secretary of State **Bill Jones** and financier **William E. Simon**, to at least two debates before the March primary.

Only two weeks ago, Riordan passed up an opportunity to debate Jones and Simon at a scheduled appearance before the conservative California Congress of Republicans in Los Angeles. Jones, in particular, is saying the new debate challenge from Riordan is little more than an attempt to quiet Republican Party criticism for Riordan's failure to appear at that gathering.

Jones, the only one of the three GOP candidates to ever run for and win a statewide election, is by far the least-financed (Riordan and Simon are both multimillionaires), and was particularly critical of Riordan's recent refusal to debate. "If Riordan can't appear on the same platform with Bill Simon and Bill Jones before a Republican audience, how in the devil is he possibly going to do it with Gray Davis?" Jones asked.

A spokesperson for the Simon campaign brushed off Riordan's debate challenge by saying, "I think they now realize they made a mistake in not participating and now they're making an attempt to get ahead of the criticism and to control the debate of any future debates."

Riordan's campaign suggested that specific dates, times, and formats be negotiated for the debates proposed between January 15 and February 15. Suggested topics include the economy, fiscal management, public safety, transportation, health care, education, and other key issues. Neither the Jones nor Simon campaign have committed to the Riordan debate challenge.

Meanwhile, if recent statements from the Simon and Jones camps are any indication, the Republican primary will turn on deciding who's the most orthodox — who is the real Republican. Riordan isn't the real deal, both Jones and Simon cry with alarm. They point out that Riordan has contributed to many Democrats in the past, including Davis himself. Simon admits that he, too, has donated campaign funds to several Democratic friends in the past. As for Jones? He's hardly a darling of the Republican Party, particularly the Bush supporters within the party. Jones defected from the Bush camp last year to support **John McCain** at a key moment in the presidential campaign. Worse yet, both Riordan and Simon are pointing out that as a member of the Legislature, Jones once voted for a \$7 billion tax increase, a truly unforgivable sin for any "real" Republican.

Davis, for his part, is busy raising an impressive campaign fund, and solidifying factions within his own party while Riordan takes continued punches from Simon and Jones for his alleged lack of

party allegiance.

So, where do the Republican gubernatorial candidates stand as the March primary race gets under way? Riordan, a pro-gay, pro-choice, moderate Catholic from Los Angeles with millions of dollars in personal wealth and lots of name identification, is currently running ahead of Jones, with Simon, also a millionaire, running a distant third.

However, Simon, a transplant New Yorker, has something his two better-known Republican rivals don't have — the endorsement of New York City's hugely popular outgoing Mayor **Rudy Giuliani**.

Simon once worked for Giuliani as a federal prosecutor when Giuliani was making his name as a crime-fighter in New York, and his former boss, a close friend, has not only promised to appear in California and

campaign for him after he leaves office in January, but has agreed to make television commercials for Simon as well.

As the three California Republicans get set to do battle — one that will surely get nasty before the March primary — a recent statewide poll conducted by the respected nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California shows that public opinion in the state has changed radically in the weeks following the September 11 terrorist attacks. The gloomy post-Clinton administration economy predictions come into play, and electricity, once a priority among Californians, is now on the back burner with only 13 percent of Californians now listing it as the top issue in their minds. The economy, followed by terrorism, now tops the list of concerns for California voters. Respected pollster **Mark Baldassare** said that "the public in general has now rallied around its elected leaders."

A result of the terrorist attacks shows that both President **George W. Bush's** and Governor Davis's popularity has surged. Californians, in fact, think much more highly of the jobs that both Bush and Davis are doing handling terrorism and security than they did of their performances during the energy crisis. While the biggest shift in public opinion for both Bush and Davis crosses party lines, the findings are more significant for Davis in that he faces re-election next year. For much of this year, the once popular governor's approval ratings had dropped below 50 percent; now, with Election Day in California slightly less than a year away, Davis's popularity is again on the rise.

Californians are clearly conflicted about the state's future: six of 10 state residents now predict bad times for the next year, yet a nearly identical percentage say the state, under Davis's guidance, is headed in the right direction.

This has definitely got to be good news for Davis as he prepares to watch the three Republican gubernatorial candidates fight it out for their party's nomination.

Politics and people

In Hayward, openly gay City Council member **Kevin Dowling** last week kicked off his re-election



Kevin Dowling

bid at a well-attended reception at The Bistro.

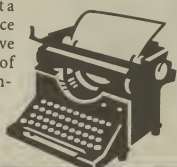
Time to finally get rid of the national Electoral College. A group of major news organizations has now concluded that it was not only the U.S. Supreme Court that imposed George W. Bush upon the country as president; it was also the outmoded Electoral College. Okay, so this country — Democrats and Republicans alike — are united behind Bush in his fight against **Osama bin Laden** and the killer terrorists of al Qaeda, but the fact remains that in the minds of most Americans, the presidential election of 2000 was stolen from **Al Gore** by the Republican government of the state of Florida and five GOP-appointed Supreme Court justices. Really, under the Electoral College system only the votes in the large states really count; it's time to forget about the chads, the outmoded voting machines and the like — it's time that the votes of Democrats in Rhode Island or Republicans in Utah counted as much as those in California, Texas, and New York. It's certainly time to fix the system whereby a person getting 537,000 more votes than his opponent loses the election!

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, the Elections Department is still under fire for delays in the counting of the November 6 ballots and faces extensive changes. One of the items just approved by voters, Proposition E, creates a new seven-member commission to run the department and hire a director. The new commission will replace a system that has produced five directors in as many years and a department that is under investigation by the secretary of state.

Speaking of elections, city attorney candidate **Dennis Herrera** last week picked up the endorsements of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, Supervisor **Sophie Maxwell**, former D.A. **Arlo Smith** (a former **Neil Eisenberg** campaign co-chair), Supervisors **Aaron Peskin** and **Jake McGoldrick**, and Board of Supes President **Tom Ammiano**. Ammiano: "The winner of the December 11 runoff for city attorney will have a long-term impact on the city's future legislation; there is really only one acceptable choice in this race and he is Dennis Herrera."

Supervisor **Mark Leno** was endorsed last week by the S.F. Firefighters group, the S.F. Police Officers Association (POA), and the S.F. Deputy Sheriff's Association in his race for the 13th Assembly District nomination.

Senators **Dianne Feinstein** next page ►



Our Man Friday



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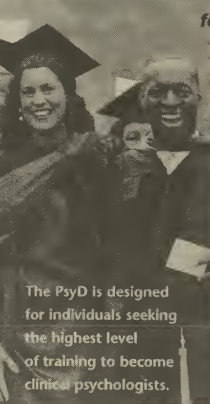
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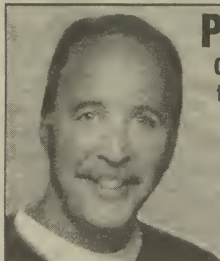
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The other side of 'manliness'

by Paula Martinac

War and disaster have a way of making the need for traditional male heroes more intense. When things get bad, people want big, burly guys around who can take charge and keep everyone safe. Lately, however, I've been finding the adulation of male firefighters and cops troubling, since hypermasculinity and homophobia often go hand in hand. In fact, the very professions being idolized have long harbored some of the worst harassers of gay people and women.

Like many other Americans, I have been in awe of the firefighters and other emergency personnel who rushed to the collapsing twin towers with seemingly no regard for their own personal safety. The stories of rescue workers who valiantly lost their lives in the line of duty have been inspiring and heartbreaking, like the fireman who raced to the World Trade Center even though he was off duty, or the police officer who was about to retire but decided he had to don his uniform one last time and head to the disaster site.

Indeed, until September 11, a lot of people may have never considered the enormous danger involved in these kinds of jobs. Now many of us have begun pondering the inner strength it takes to run directly into danger instead of away from it - all in an effort to save other people's lives. These acts of tense selflessness and bravery have caught the country's imagination, turning firefighters and cops into instant icons. It's understandable why on Halloween firefighters' costumes sold like crazy across the country.

Two months after the tragedy, however, the incessant hero-worship is starting to wear on me. Many lesbians and gay men may, in fact, be finding themselves with conflicting feelings about these "manly" professions, which, though esteemed for bravery, have traditionally been bastions of ho-



interview a gay firefighter "in a large Northeastern city" pseudonymously to protect the man's identity. "I can't let these guys know me," the firefighter said, for fear of "verbal torture" and the end of his career. He told Woog that anti-gay jokes are an integral part of firehouse life and that no one in command does anything to change the intensely homophobic culture.

There have even been horrifying examples of emergency workers harassing the people they're supposed to help. It's hard to forget the story of Tyra Hunter, a transgendered hairdresser in Washington, D.C., who died a few years ago following a car crash.

Hunter didn't get the treatment that might have saved her life because a fire department emergency worker on the scene got freaked out by her male genitalia.

Cops, too, have been notorious for their anti-gay actions. Just this past summer, the FBI began an investigation of an incident in San Antonio in which police beat and verbally abused three young Canadian tourists. "What are you fags doing in our city?" one cop allegedly demanded.

The world may have changed since September 11, but some things definitely remain the same. A recent television interview featured two firefighters who had survived the towers' collapse, because one of them had bravely risked his life to pull his "brother" out of the rubble. To free the trapped man, he had to straddle his fellow firefighter in a sexually suggestive way. "I told him, you can beat the shit out of me later, after I get you outta here," the rescuer laughed.

It's doubtful that anti-gay sentiments like these will end unless those in charge of fire and police personnel take steps to institute change. And in a climate in which "manly men" are revered as near-gods, sensitivity training is likely to be low on the priority list. ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNColum@aol.com.

mophobia and sexism.

In recent years, reports of firefighters bullying their gay and female co-workers have been widespread and persistent. In

1999, an internal review by Britain's Fire Service found the levels of homophobia and sexism among firefighters in that country "difficult to believe." Although there's been no such national report in the United States, numerous local incidents of harassment of gay and female firefighters suggest that findings over here might be very similar.

Only weeks before the terrorist assault, for example, gay firefighters in Boston joined female colleagues and firefighters of color in filing complaints against the city's fire department. One straight black female firefighter told the Associated Press horror stories of finding broken glass inside her work boots and having her oxygen mask and gloves stolen by fellow firefighters. The perpetrators of such "jokes," she said, "are more than just a few bad apples." The president of the local firefighters' union dismissed the allegations as "a lot of hype," but the severity of the charges has attracted the attention of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Many gay firefighters remain scared to come out on the job. In a new book, *Gay Men, Straight Jobs*, author Dan Woog had to in-

Lesbian Notions

Our Man Friday

◀ previous page

and Barbara Boxer are among the co-chairs of a fundraiser/reception for Assemblyman Kevin Shelley, running for California secretary of state, to be held December 6 at the San Francisco Bar Pilots Station on Pier 9, 5:30-7:30 pm (\$100; 255-8587 for info).

From San Diego comes news that in the 10 years since a number of San Diego police officers began coming out as gay or lesbian, the department has changed from one in which harassment was commonplace to one where an officer's sexuality is irrelevant, a new study concludes. A University of California report released last week is the first to offer a long-

term assessment of integrating gay and lesbian officers into a major urban police force. Researchers found the integration of gay and lesbian officers has improved department effectiveness, reduced the emotional tension that heterosexual officers had anticipated, and improved relations with city residents.

A runoff in Miami's mayoral election resulted in the election of political newcomer Manny Diaz, an independent, replacing long-time Mayor Joe Carollo. Diaz represented the Miami relatives of Elián Gonzalez last year.

Actor Danny Glover, a San Francisco resident, has called on the United States government to spare the life of Osama bin Laden. Glover made the comments last week during an anti-death penal-

ty forum at Princeton University. The event was sponsored by the Mercer County chapter of Amnesty International, which opposes the death penalty. "When I say the death penalty is inhumane, I mean whether that person is in a bird cage or bin Laden," the actor told the crowd. Glover criticized President Bush and the government for detaining hundreds of immigrants after the September 11 terrorist attacks, and for seeking permission to listen in on conversations between suspected terrorists and their lawyers. "This clearly is a slippery slope," Glover said. "We must stand vigilant against Bush in these times." (Not a word from Glover, however, as to standing "vigilant" against bin Laden and his murderous allies.)

And how was your week? ▼

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Who was Brian Epstein?

by Paula Martinac

November, 1961 (40 years ago this month): After hearing the Beatles perform at The Cavern in Liverpool, Brian Epstein approaches them about becoming their manager.

When Brian Epstein first heard the Beatles perform, they were four tough, leather-clad, working-class boys who smoked and swore on stage – the opposite of Epstein, a sophisticated, polished, and always impeccably dressed gay man. “They’re awful,” Epstein told his assistant, “but I think they’re fabulous.” As the Beatles’ manager, Epstein carefully honed their public image, creating the now-legendary “Fab Four.”

Epstein was born in Liverpool in 1934 to a middle-class Jewish family. His father owned several different retail businesses, including a furniture store and the North End Music Stores (popularly called NEMS), which sold pianos, radios, and phonographs.

At school, young Brian was, according to his own recollections, “ragged, nagged, and bullied,” and he dropped out at 16. Put to work at the family furniture store, he took “a keen interest in display work and interior decoration.” But just as he was settling into the job, he was drafted into the army.

In the service, Epstein was also harassed. Finally, he was discharged after only 10 months for being “mentally unfit” – probably a code for “gay.” Returning home, he began managing a family furniture store.

But Epstein didn’t want to sell tables and chairs. Stagestruck, he successfully auditioned for the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. After moving away from home, he began actively pursuing his sexual desire for other men. In 1956 in a subway lavatory, he was arrested in an undercover police sting for “persistently importuning several men for immoral purposes”; he pleaded guilty and was fined.

Epstein did not do well at RADA – his instructors cited his physical tenseness as one shortcoming – and soon he was back in Liverpool, this time as the manager of the first floor of a NEMS branch. He immediately expanded the inventory into records, and, when sales skyrocketed, his father promoted him to manager of his own NEMS.

Record sales brought out Epstein’s distinctive talents. Although he was not fond of rock ‘n’ roll – he liked musicals, a gay friend recalled years later – Epstein was good at guessing which pop tunes would become hits. He became well-known at major record companies, which would



Brian Epstein

increase their production of a disc if they learned that Epstein had ordered it heavily for his store.

In the fall of 1961, teenagers started coming to NEMS clamoring for a single called “My Bonnie,” on which a band called the Beatles played and sang backup. Epstein’s curiosity was piqued, and when he learned that the Beatles were appearing at The Cavern, a nearby club, he went to hear them.

The place was dingy and smoky, and Epstein and his assistant stood in back, the only two men in business suits. What struck Epstein were the Beatles’ humor and charm, and he knew immediately that he wanted to manage them. Conversations with the group resulted in a contract in late 1961.

Epstein dressed the Beatles in suits, coached them in stage discipline and grooming, and taught them to take their signature synchronized bow at the end of each performance. “The myth is that we all hated it,” Paul McCartney has said, “but my memory is we didn’t mind at all.” The change of image got them better-paying gigs in classy clubs all over England. As manager, Epstein also did the dirty work. At John, Paul, and George’s request, he fired drummer Pete Best in 1962 to make way for the more talented Ringo Starr.

The Beatles knew all along that “Eppie” was gay. There have been persistent rumors that he was in

love with John Lennon and that the two had an affair during a 12-day Spanish holiday together in April, 1963 (fictionalized in the 1991 feature film *The Hours and the Times*). But Epstein’s intimates maintain those are just myths.

It took almost two years of struggle for Epstein to get his “boys” a recording contract. Finally, George Martin, a producer at EMI, signed the Beatles, largely because of Epstein’s enthusiasm for them. “He had this unwavering devotion and faith in them,” Martin said, “that they were brilliant and were going to conquer the world.”

While “Love Me Do” and “Please Please Me” were topping the charts in Britain, Epstein began a campaign to bring the Beatles to America. In November 1963, he successfully negotiated a deal with *The Ed Sullivan Show*. Because the group was unknown in the United States, however, Sullivan only agreed to pay their airfare and a small fee.

The Beatles’ appearance on Sullivan’s show the following February made history, and their rise after that was meteoric. Epstein booked a lucrative American tour, which included a sold-out performance at Shea Stadium in New York – the first stadium concert in rock ‘n’ roll history.

But in his off time, Epstein drank and gambled to excess, experimented with LSD, and routinely popped uppers and downers. In August 1967, his life ended at age 32 when he overdosed on sleeping pills, probably accidentally. The Beatles, who were on a spiritual retreat at the time, were devastated. “He was just a beautiful fella,” Lennon told a reporter. Although Epstein is nowhere near as well-known as the four musicians he steered to fame, he was, McCartney now maintains, “the fifth Beatle.” ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books, including *The Queerest Places: A Guide to Gay and Lesbian Historic Sites*. She can be reached care of this publication or at POcolumn@aol.com.

Crafts fair this weekend

by Katie Szymanski

Ceramics, jewelry, metal and wood sculptures, clothing, photography, and paintings are all a part of the “Celebration of Craftswomen” fair to be held this weekend and next in the Festival Pavilion at Fort Mason.

Now in its 23rd year, the fair will run November 24-25 and December 1-2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will benefit the San Francisco Women’s Building, the nation’s first women’s community center and a resource for many LGBT families.

Over 150 artists will be featured and present at the event, which prides itself on the fact that each piece is made “from beginning to end by a single pair of hands.”

Art enthusiasts and holiday shoppers alike are encouraged to browse functional and decorative items, from painted silk and leather wearables, to watercolor wall hangings, to hand-crafted children’s toys. The artists will be on hand to answer questions

about their work and technique, and the fair will also host live music, a gourmet food pavilion, a silent auction, and a raffle.

Admission to the fair is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and free for children under 12; a two-day pass is available for \$10. Parking with a continuous free shuttle is offered at Marina Middle School on Bay Street between Buchanan and Webster. Proceeds from tickets and other fees will directly help to ensure that the Women’s Building can continue its mission of providing a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-service center that gives women and girls the tools they need to achieve full and equal participation in society. Organizations that enjoy affordable space within the nonprofit center at 18th and Valencia include Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere, Women Against Rape, Mujeres Unidas y Activas, Girl Source, Bay Area Teen Voices, and the National Organization for Women.

For more information on the Celebration of Craftswomen, visit www.proeventusa.com or call (415) 383-3470. ▼

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Suggested reading

Coleman, Ray. 1989. *The Man Who Made the Beatles: An Intimate Biography of Brian Epstein*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Epstein, Brian. 1964. *A Cellularful of Noise*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday.

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What black & Latino voters think of gays

Focus groups, telephone survey commissioned

by Bob Roehr

Latino and African American voters recognize discrimination against gays and lesbians, but that does not automatically translate into support for gay issues and candidates. That summary was part of a detailed briefing presented on November 17 to members of the International Network of Lesbian and Gay Officials meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Foundation commissioned the series of focus groups and a telephone survey on which the report was based. Gutierrez and Associates and The Feldman Group did the work in September. The foundation hopes to fund a similar examination of the attitudes of Asian voters.

"Family, education, and religious values are fundamental" in shaping the values of black and Latino voters, said Armando Gutierrez. But there are important differences in how the two groups order their priorities and how they integrate them into daily life.

Religious faith was among the top two personal values for 44 percent of African Americans, according to the report. They are significantly more likely to embrace a literal interpretation of the Bible and to make religion "much more central in terms of their day-to-day decision-making."

Only 27 percent of Latinos assigned religion that priority, and they tend to use it more as a foundation for life than as a literal guide to making daily decisions. Gutierrez interpreted religion as more of a cultural value where official dogma of the Catholic Church on issues such as premarital sex and abortion is tempered by the pragmatism of life experiences.

John Duran, the West Hollywood city councilman of Mexican heritage, offered the perspective that "religion is seen more as a source of comfort than as a sword."

Gutierrez speculated that a more benign position on homosexuality among Latinos might come from an understanding that a portion of the Catholic clergy are gay and remain respected leaders within the community. That is much less likely to be the case in the African American community where the predominate Baptist and Methodist clergy are encouraged to marry. Often their churches form the base for political power as well, further consolidating power within the community.

Given those attitudes, it is no surprise that gay marriage carries high negatives, with 51 percent of Latino and 62 percent of African American voters opposing the idea.

Civil unions garnered only slightly better numbers, with 40 percent of Latino and 55 percent



Armando Gutierrez conducted a study on how Latino and African American voters feel about gays and lesbians.

of African American voters opposed, according to the report. Part of that opposition stems from the belief that if a state does not recognize common law marriages, then civil unions are seen as a "special right" for gays that straights would not have.

Still, many in the focus groups felt a conflict between denying gays marriage, which they con-

cede is based on religious beliefs, and their deeply held beliefs in fairness and justice in society. The wedge that may be able to move voters toward a favorable view of gay marriage is the issue of sepa-

ration of church and state. The researchers noted that few of those surveyed have grappled with it, particularly within in the context of gay rights.

The report recommends "an aggressive and systematic campaign to 'force' Americans generally and Latinos and African Americans specifically to come to grips with the fundamental, bedrock principle of separation of church and state and how that distinction begs for a recognition of gay rights under the law."

Discrimination

Blacks and Latinos are extremely sensitive to discrimination in any shape or form, so much so that one older very religious African American woman said, "Discriminating against anybody even if they had made this wrong choice [of being gay] was wrong," according to Diane Feldman.

Both communities see discrimination as a continuum tied to skin color, the darker the skin the greater the burden of discrimination. Most see that playing out in economic terms. It translates into overwhelming support for legislation protecting against workplace discrimination. But

page 18 ►

Utah pays off lawyers for gay-straight alliance, concluding lawsuit

by Katie Szymanski

Four thousand square feet of classroom space. Five thousand textbooks. Over one million containers of milk.

That's what the state of Utah could have bought with the \$250,000 it spent in its unsuccessful battle to ban a gay-straight alliance from a Salt Lake City high school.

The legal case, *East High Gay/Straight Alliance v. Board of Education*, officially came to a close last week, with the students victorious in defending their right to assemble, and the state of Utah paying a quarter of a million dollars in legal fees.

"Not only was the battle expensive for Utah," said a statement issued by the National Center for Lesbian Rights, one of three legal organizations that represented the students, "it ultimately did nothing to deter students from organizing the support groups."

Indeed, gay-straight alliances grew to more than 1,000 across the country in the past two years alone, according to the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network. Citing a similar lawsuit in Orange, California, GLSEN said the growth of such clubs proves their necessity in schools, although many still must struggle to meet despite their right to do so under the federal Equal Access Act.

"In the near absence of support from school administration and

teachers, students are taking the lead to educate their peers and make schools safe places for all," said Kevin Jennings, executive director of GLSEN.

It was the Equal Access Act that prompted court rulings in favor of the Utah students; the law requires that secondary schools that receive federal funds to allow extra-curricular groups to meet on campus are prohibited from discriminating against any groups based on their viewpoint. The school attempted to circumvent this law by banning all extra-curricular clubs. In 1998, a federal judge ruled that Salt Lake's school board had violated the Equal Access Act, and in a subsequent lawsuit in 2000, a second federal judge ruled that the school had violated the First Amendment in its efforts to ban the gay club. The school soon after rescinded its anti-gay policies and agreed to pay attorney's fees, with the final payment received by NCLR, the American Civil Liberties Union, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund at the beginning of November.

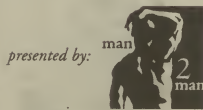
"The efforts of those opposing these groups clearly backfired," said Stephen Clark, legal director for the ACLU of Utah. "In fact, groups supporting gay students are now thriving at nine schools in Utah. I hope the government's wasted effort and money will deter other school districts from undertaking these harmful, and ultimately futile, attempts to ban these clubs." ▼

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Another twist to case

Defendant in dog mauling case has mysterious health ailment

by Ed Walsh

The woman charged with second-degree murder for her role in the fatal dog mauling of Diane Whipple is breaking her silence about a mysterious illness that could ultimately delay the start of what's expected to be one of the most closely watched trials in Bay Area history.

In an exclusive interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Marjorie Knoller said she's been suffering from a debilitating painful illness that has doctors at San Francisco General Hospital completely baffled.

Knoller's condition was made obvious during her last court appearance on October 12. Knoller guardedly limped into the courtroom and appeared to cringe in pain with each step. She winced as she slowly eased into her seat. During part of the hearing, she rested her head on the defense table.

Knoller, 46, spoke to the *B.A.R.* from a room off her jail pod at the San Francisco County Jail on 7th Street, which has been her home for more than seven months. She wore a padded neck collar, and like her last hearing, appeared to have trouble walking.

Knoller said her condition began on September 22 with a painful bruise on her left calf. She noted that the bruising progressed and appeared as three dots up on her thigh the following day.

"It got progressively worse from there," Knoller said. "It looked like I was in a fight."

Knoller said the bruising spread to both legs and the pain became unbearable. She said the bruising wasn't in response to any external trauma but came "from the inside out."

"I was in such pain I couldn't get out of bed. It's excruciatingly painful," said Knoller.

Despite numerous tests and trips to the hospital, Knoller said that doctors are completely baffled and couldn't give her any prognosis when it was going to end. Knoller said that so far all biopsies for cancer have turned up negative.

She's been prescribed an anti-inflammatory drug and is allowed four extra-strength Tylenol a day to cope with the pain. She plans to hire an outside specialist and said that she will have to rely on her parents to pay for it.

Knoller also for the first time offered an explanation for why she appeared in court twice last spring in a wheelchair. Knoller said that was because she had trouble walking in connection with a problem with high blood pressure that developed in mid-April.

"My blood pressure was off the scale," she said.

Knoller said she also developed a problem with pain and difficulty in movement of her left hand, arm, neck, and shoulder. She believes it is a lingering problem as a result of her struggle to gain control of Bane, the male dog who instigated the January 26 attack on Whipple. She pointed out small scars on her right hand and forearm that she said were bite marks from Bane as a result of her struggle to keep Bane off Whipple.

Knoller said she didn't know whether her condition would ul-

timately delay the start of the trial scheduled for January 22 in Los Angeles. She said she barely made it through the last hearing. In an interview with the *B.A.R.* last month, her husband and co-defendant, Robert Noel, said he was surprised she was able to attend the hearing at all.

Knoller and Noel have been in jail since their arrests following a grand jury indictment of them on March 27. Knoller was with her dogs, Bane and Hera, during the deadly hallway attack on her neighbor, Diane Whipple, and faces second-degree murder as her most serious charge. Noel, 60, is being charged with involuntary manslaughter. Each faces a charge of keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being.

Prosecutors allege that the couple had ample warning that the

dogs were dangerous and did nothing to mitigate the danger. After the incident, the couple unleashed what turned out to be a public relations nightmare by writing an 18-page letter to District Attorney Terence Hallinan in which they suggested that the attack may have been the result of Whipple wearing a pheromone-based scent or by her taking steroids. The couple also suggested that Whipple could have easily taken herself out of harm's way if she had simply stayed in her apartment and shut the door when Bane first began to attack. Whipple's supporters vigorously and angrily refuted the couple's claims.

Knoller said she relives the horror of the January 26 attack between 3-4:30 a.m. everyday. She said she is jarred by the memory of the attack, "a memory bit," as

she called it, that she described as being more vivid than a flashback.

"There's no surreal quality to it, I'm there again," said Knoller.

Knoller fought back tears during much of the interview and said that talking about the attack only intensifies the nightmare.

"Tonight will not be a good night," she said.

Knoller's nightmare is no doubt relived by Whipple's partner of seven years, Sharon Smith, and close friends and relatives for whom Whipple's absence is a constant reminder of the horror of January 26. In fact, Smith has been near tears in several public appearances since the attack.

The prosecutor of the Whipple case, Jim Hammer, returned a call from the *B.A.R.* but said he couldn't comment on Knoller's illness and cited the judge's gag order.



Marjorie Knoller

Knoller said she felt comfortable breaking her public silence about her health because she didn't believe it violated the gag order because it didn't involve the facts of the case. As a matter of policy, San Francisco County Jail does not release information about an inmate's medical treatment or condition.

Knoller said she expected that she would be able to attend a hearing scheduled for Wednesday, November 21, that will take up the issue of whether to keep the dog Hera alive for evidence in the criminal trial. Bane was put down shortly after the attack. ▼

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Governor taps openly gay man for regional director position

by Matthew S. Bajko

After a month on the job as Governor Gray Davis's director for the San Francisco regional office, openly gay Robert Oakes is still settling in to his new role. The former business consultant, mayoral aide, and judge now is the eyes and ears for the governor in 17 counties, from Monterey in the south to northern Del Norte by the Oregon border.

"I am working on doing outreach to the community. I am developing and identifying commu-

nity leaders who need our help or can assist us," said Oakes, who lives in the Castro and spent last week meeting the city supervisors' staffs.

At the moment, Oakes said the main concern for both the governor and himself is the Bay Area's dwindling economy. With unemployment in the Bay Area driving the state's job losses, Oakes said he is looking for ideas that will reverse those numbers.

"We here in the district office are looking for ways to promote the Bay Area economy," he said.

With his region's population

base found by the Bay, Oakes has prioritized meeting with leaders and community groups in the Bay Area counties. By the end of the year, he expects to have visited all nine counties. On Tuesday of this week, Oakes stopped in Oakland to meet with Alameda County leaders.

The visits not only offer Oakes a chance to learn about the needs of his region but also allow him an opportunity to discuss the governor's agenda and initiatives. Of late, those have included the increased guards at area bridges and the inclusion of Viread, a new HIV treatment drug, to the state's Medi-Cal program.

"If we do well by the people of California, then we will serve him well," said Oakes.

This is the fourth time Oakes has served on behalf of a politician. After graduating from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, he interned for U.S. Congressman Tony Coelho in the Modesto District office. In the early 1990s, Oakes worked for U.S.

Congressman Robert Matsui as his district field representative, where he was responsible for constituent outreach, intern recruitment and supervision, and information technology.

In October 1993, then-San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan hired Oakes as his legislative director and liaison to the lesbian and gay community. In that position, Oakes provided legislative analysis and oversaw the mayor's ballot initiatives, as well as advised the mayor on gay and lesbian issues and on AIDS/HIV issues.

Oakes received a law degree from McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento and earned an MBA from California State University, Sacramento. He has taught law courses at McGeorge and served as judge pro-tempore for settlement matters with the Santa Barbara Superior Courts. He has also worked as a turnaround consultant for Valley Media in Woodland and Digital Ventures in San Francisco.

"I looked good on paper for



Robert Oakes

this job," Oakes joked about being tapped for the \$82,000-a-year position with the governor.

Oakes, who met the governor for the first time in October for a 15-minute interview, said he is honored to work for Davis, whom he regards as a strong supporter of gay and lesbian issues.

"He has a good record with HIV/AIDS issues and on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender issues," said Oakes. "We had 16 years of governors who did nothing for the gay and lesbian community. Now, the governor just signed the nation's most forward-thinking domestic partners bill." ▼

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Gov. adds HIV drug Viread to Medi-Cal plan

by Matthew S. Bajko

Californians living with HIV and covered under the state's Medi-Cal program have access to a new treatment drug called Viread. Governor Gray Davis made the announcement that the state would pay for the new drug on November 13, 17 days after the federal Food and Drug Administration approved it.

"This drug will offer hope to those with HIV who have not responded well to other available drugs," said Davis. "Saving lives by making HIV combatant drugs available quickly will continue to be a priority of my administration."

In clinical trials, Viread was effective in treating patients who

had developed resistance to available therapies. It is the first drug approved for the treatment of HIV from a class of drugs known as nucleotide analog reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

The drug, also known by its generic name tenofovir, has been added to the Medi-Cal formulary, the list of drugs that health care providers may prescribe without prior approval and receive reimbursement. All FDA-approved drugs for the treatment of HIV are included in the Medi-Cal formulary. Medi-Cal will reimburse claims for Viread retroactive to the date of FDA approval, October 26, 2001.

Viread, produced by Gilead Sciences of Foster City, is also now available to individuals enrolled in the AIDS Drug Assistance Pro-

gram, which provides medications for individuals with HIV who earn less than \$50,000 annually.

From October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001, Medi-Cal expenditures for HIV-specific antiretroviral drugs were \$127 million. The state Office of AIDS estimates about 112,000 Californians are living with HIV/AIDS today, and that since 1991, more than 123,000 men, women, and children in California have been diagnosed with AIDS. Of those, more than 75,000 have died.

California has the largest state fund contribution for the support of AIDS drugs. With the addition of Viread, 146 drugs are now on the ADAP formulary, which serves nearly 25,000 eligible individuals with HIV. ▼

Bus shelter art delivers postcard messages in time for World AIDS Day

by Matthew S. Bajko

While postcards usually bear warm messages from friends and family on vacation, billboard-sized postcards now adorning bus shelters along Market Street attempt to deconstruct that concept.

The posters start off like any other postcard, with "Greetings from San Francisco." But the messages they carry are not "We're having fun" or "Wish you were here." Instead, the messages describe the experiences from someone who is living with HIV.

Entitled "Still Here," the postcards are part of a new Art in Transit project. Installed last week in transit shelters along Market Street in San Francisco and in the Addison Street windows of businesses in Berkeley, they are in honor of World AIDS Day on December 1.

"As the title implies, AIDS/HIV still exists in our communities and is still here as a global pandemic," said Sharon Siskin, a local artist

who participated in the project. "The project also focuses on the fact that people living with the disease are still struggling with all of its manifestations and ramifications, despite rosy media images of people downing drug cocktails and returning to a pre-AIDS lifestyle."

Each postcard has a photographic portrait of a resident or art program participant of Derek Silva, a housing and support community for low-income people who are HIV-positive. While the design of the postcard evokes an old-fashioned feel and the sense that the writer is on vacation, the background is an enlarged image of red blood cells as seen through a microscope.

Local artists photographed participants in the project - volunteers who live at or participate in the art program at Derek Silva - in their homes doing everyday activities. Then the volunteers attended a summer writing workshop taught by Alison Luteran, a poet, writer, and HIV counselor.

"Still Here attempts to give

voice to the experience of real people; we hope these stories will help AIDS education and prevention efforts in the Bay Area and beyond," said Siskin.

A visual artist and activist, Siskin founded Positive Art, a community arts project located at AIDS/HIV service organizations in three Bay Area counties since 1988. Two California Arts Council artists-in-residence for Positive Art at Derek Silva helped with the project: Nancer Le Moins and Robert Corti. Both are living with HIV.

The postcards can be seen on transit kiosks along Market Street until February 15, 2002 and in Berkeley, at 2018 Addison Street, until December 14.

On World AIDS Day, the Derek Silva Center is hosting a reception for the artists and their work. Smaller versions of all 15 of the posters will be on display and everyone who helped create them, the subjects, writers, and photographers, is expected to be in attendance. The reception will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Derek Silva, 1594 Market Street at Franklin. ▼

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10 LOCATIONS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Circuit party promoters hand out donations

by Matthew S. Bajko

Gay Rights Grass Roots West, the producer of Real Bad, the annual circuit party held after the Folsom Street Fair, announced last week it had raised \$60,000 at this year's event, held in late September. At a ceremony held at the Eagle on Tuesday, November 13, GRGRWest presented donations of \$30,000 each to New Leaf Services and the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

Hosted by a small group of friends, the Real Bad party is now in its 13th year. The volunteer organization has seen its donations grow by 250 percent during the last four years, said Chuck Johnson, chair of GRGRWest. Last year, the dance party raised \$34,000.

"We have a large international following now," said Johnson. "We are the most successful, all-volunteer dance party in San Francisco."

Club 1015 Folsom donated its venue for this year's party and the DJ, Rafael M from Los Angeles, spun for less than \$1,000. While the group has given money to the Victory Fund before, this was the first time it had donated to New Leaf.

"New Leaf had applied a number of times with us," said Johnson. "We felt they are doing



GRGRWest presented checks for \$30,000 each to Brenda Larabee and Wes Freas, representing New Leaf Services, left, and Treasurer Susan Leal and Jeff Soukup, right, representing the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. Behind Leal is Chuck Johnson of GRGRWest.

worthwhile work in the community and wanted to show support for them."

According to GRGRWest's Web site, organizers figured that since gay men were going to spend money to attend parties and dance clubs in the city and around the country, some of the money should be directed to gay and lesbian charities, especially political action groups. Thus, the first Real Bad party was held.

Since its inception, GRGRWest has contributed to such projects as the San Francisco Domestic Partners Initiative (1991 Proposition

K), Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's "Fight the Right" Project, Women's Educational Media for support of the film *It's Elementary*, the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, Positive Resource Center, the ACLU FrontLine Campaign, Maitri, the No on Knight campaign, Home Care Companions, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

For more information about GRGRWest, or the Real Bad party, visit the group's Web site at www.realbad.org.

Eureka Valley Rec Center may be named for Mark Bingham

by Matthew S. Bajko

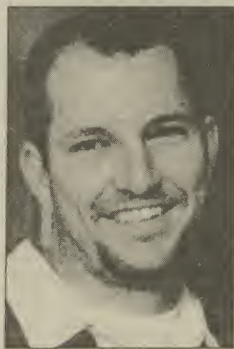
The Recreation and Park Commission is set to name the Eureka Valley Recreation Center in honor of Mark Bingham, the gay San Franciscan who died aboard United Flight 93 on September 11.

Barring any opposition from the community, the commission is expected to approve the renaming of the center sometime in January. Brought before the commission for discussion at its meeting last Thursday, November 15, none of the commission members spoke on the matter. Elizabeth Goldstein, Recreation and Park Department general manager, introduced the item.

"We were approached by Mark's family, the mayor's office, and his friends in recommending the renaming of the center," said Goldstein. "Staff reviewed the request, and it seems to comply with our renaming rules."

Only two public speakers addressed the commission about the proposal, both in favor.

"Mark loved the Eureka Valley Community Center and played basketball there almost every Sunday," said Paul Holm, Bingham's former partner of six years, at the meeting. "We thought a long time and couldn't think of anything more fitting. I am honored you



Mark Bingham

are considering the idea. I know Mark would love it."

Friend Annemarie Conroy, who met her husband through Holm, said the renaming of the center is a "fitting and appropriate gesture" for remembering Bingham.

"Mark made the ultimate sacrifice for his fellow Americans," said Conroy, a former supervisor and now the director of Treasure Island. "The knowledge he is being honored by the city and county of San Francisco will go a long way to help his friends and family cope with the loss of Mark."

Bingham is widely credited

with helping to thwart the terrorists aboard his flight from crashing the plane into the Capitol or another Washington, D.C. landmark. Instead, the plane went down in a field in western Pennsylvania.

U.S. Senator John McCain (R-Arizona), who spoke at Bingham's memorial at the University of California, Berkeley, has proposed all the passengers of Flight 93 be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno has also proposed the city and Castro community construct a memorial to Bingham and is working with community leaders to develop an idea. Suggestions have included a "walk of fame" for gay heroes leading from the new LGBT Community Center up Market Street to Castro or a memorial at Harvey Milk Plaza. A memorial at the recreation center has also been proposed.

When contacted by the *Bay Area Reporter* last Friday, Leno, who represents District 8, said he was unaware of the proposal to rename the rec center.

"I am a little surprised they didn't bring the recommendation to the attention of the supervisor of the district. Although I didn't know about it, I am not opposed to it," said Leno.

He said he hopes the recreation

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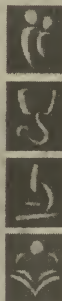
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No joke: Queer youth and suicidal thoughts and attempts

by Cesar Z.

We are all part of a statistic whether it's being one out of the 10 people who is gay, or being one of the 69 percent of gay students who has been a target of verbal, physical, or sexual harassment in school, or even worse being one of the gay teens that account for 30 to 50 percent of all completed suicide attempts.

I am 21 years old and in just a couple of years I have known four people who have tried or thought about suicide. The most recent was a 16-year-old guy from New York that I met over the Internet. We have chatted and e-mailed each other since we first met back in June. We became good friends and would talk about anything: from having homophobic parents and being in the closet to going out with boys.

He and I shared lots of common interests, which is what brought us even closer together. We both liked the fashion industry, we were both in the closet back then, and he reminded me of when I was growing up in high school, arrogantly thinking that I had the world in my hands. We both had parents with strong religious beliefs and we both had very macho fathers. We grew up always

getting what we wanted from our parents: clothes, money, what ever we wanted, we got.

Every day I would check my e-mail and there it was, an e-mail from him. He would write me the longest e-mails ever. We would talk about having a crush on a guy, family, or about any random thing. One day, I received an e-mail from him saying, "Cz ... this is just to say good-bye. I'm going to commit suicide. Not tonight ... I have it scheduled for the night before my birthday..." After reading this, my throat got into a knot and I could not speak or breathe; all I could do was cry. Out of all the things we had in common, why must suicide be another.

When I was in the closet I also had thoughts about suicide. I never told anyone until I came out of the closet. I was able to help myself and not do anything stupid. But I was not sure if this guy, who was like a little brother to me, would have the strength to deal with his problems and know that someone on the other side of the e-mails cared for him even if he thought that no one else did.

After receiving his good-bye e-mail I called the San Francisco

suicide hotline for advice, and I e-mailed him every five minutes hoping that he would at least return one of my e-mails saying that he was okay or something. I did not have his phone number but I knew his name and where he went to school so I made plans to fly to New York that weekend if he did not respond. The next day, I received an e-mail from him saying:

"Hi, Thanks for worrying ... after what happened today, I changed my mind. I really appreciate that you worried, though. ... I'm sorry I hadn't e-mailed you before."

I felt bad that I couldn't do anything but call a suicide hotline

and e-mail him. I wanted to just reach into my computer and help him. I knew that he couldn't go to his parents to talk about his problems because they would not understand. I felt the same way. You can't talk to anyone when you are in the closet so you feel that the only way to get rid of your problems is to kill yourself. The easiest way out is not always the best way,

but when the people who are supposed to love you the most cannot be there for you because you are "different," nothing else matters. It seemed that his parents gave him everything he wanted, but in this case everything material did not matter. Just a simple open-minded conversation would be enough to help someone who has a problem especially when that someone is your son.

Suicide is such a big problem in our society, especially when you are gay and young. We have a higher risk of suicide than our heterosexual peers, yet it seems like society does not care. Oh, I forgot, we are gay so we don't matter, and we are going to hell anyway.

Young gays have little or no gay role models. And we know that most heterosexuals are not going to help us out especially when we are coming out. We all know coming out is difficult, which is why those of us who are out and maybe a little older must help those who are young and may be going through what we went through, like dealing with suicidal thoughts. I have met older gays

who have given me advice, and believe it or not, I took it and here I am. Sometimes just a "Hey, how are you?" and five minutes can make all the difference.

I am glad that my e-mail friend never went through with suicide. I am sure that in a couple of months he will look back and see all that he has accomplished, that life will get better and that it is worth living. ▼

Cesar Z. just turned 21 and recently came out to his family and friends. He is a student of print journalism. To find out about writing a future "Generation Q" column, which appears in conjunction with the Bay Area Reporter and LYRIC, please e-mail Ned, the_red@yahoo.com. All lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, intersex, queer, and questioning people age 25 and under are welcome to join the group of writers. No experience is required. All that is required is a different experience and the will to tell it.

Generation Q

Quarantine

◀ page 1

civil liberties of San Franciscans."

Klausner also told the B.A.R. that he is neither homophobic nor opposed to gay sex.

What is quarantine?

Simply put, from a public health standpoint, quarantine is the isolation of a person who has a communicable disease so that they are not transmitting the disease to the general public. Dr. Gail Bolan, chief of the STD Control Branch for the state Department of Health Services, said that state law allows public health officials to consider quarantine for communicable diseases if it is "necessary for protecting the public health."

Bolan, who was STD director in San Francisco from 1992-97 and with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention before that, said she could recall no instances of quarantine in the state for STDs.

"It's an absolute last resort," Bolan told the B.A.R.

She added that the times she has seen quarantine used has been for cases of tuberculosis when patients have refused therapy.

"Quarantine, as an STD control, is not used. There would be severe implications of how we operate," she said.

Bolan echoed Tierney's comments about how working with STDs in public health, the goal is to get people treated. People wouldn't come in for care, she said, if there was a fear of being isolated through quarantine.

Bolan said she was aware of the *Washington Monthly* article, but had been out of town last week and hadn't yet read it. She declined to comment on Klausner's comments in the article.

Syphilis concerns

Klausner, who upset the ACT UP/SF crowd last month when he reported that syphilis rates in the city are on the rise among gay men, has long tried to get America Online to post warnings in its chat rooms frequented by gay men. Last week, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that the online

giant would not be posting the notices in any of its chat rooms. Instead, AOL plans to work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on a sexual health campaign. No other specifics were mentioned.

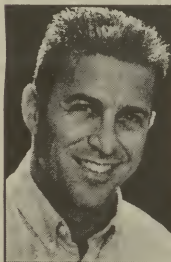
Klausner told the B.A.R. that recent cases of syphilis (which is easily treated with antibiotics if detected early) in San Francisco "have been associated with persons meeting partners in the AOL SFM4M chat rooms, adult bookstores, sex clubs, and bathhouses in other counties."

"Other venues have not been associated with increased risk for disease transmission," Klausner said in response to a question about why he seems only to mention chat rooms and businesses frequented by gays in his health warnings. "We are working with these venues to inform clients of the increased risk of syphilis associated with meeting new partners at these sites. These sites have been identified by interviewing recent cases as to where they have met recent partners. We compared where syphilis cases meet recent partners with sexually active persons without syphilis and find that syphilis cases were most likely to meet partners at these venues. This is the epidemiologic process."

Klausner was also asked why he doesn't mention syphilis rates in the heterosexual community when issuing the warnings. He said the rates of syphilis in the heterosexual community have been "at a low steady state."

"The last increase in syphilis cases in the heterosexual community was in 1992 when there was significant and substantial public health efforts to inform the community and conduct control efforts," he said. "This outbreak was felt to be related to the crack cocaine epidemic."

Bolan said there was also a huge syphilis outbreak in the city in 1987-88, again primarily in the heterosexual community. During that outbreak, she said, "quarantine was not something we discussed." ▼



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OBITUARIES

Stop AIDS

◀ page 1

a local review panel. This panel has never indicated that any of our materials were obscene or designed to promote sexual activity."

Steven Tierney, HIV prevention director with DPH, told the B.A.R. that the issue stems from differing interpretations. Federal officials, he said, likely have different standards than most San Franciscans when it comes to HIV prevention materials.

"Of course her standard is different," Tierney said, referring to Janet Rehnquist, who was appointed to her HHS position earlier this year and is the daughter of U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

"We have a harm reduction model in this county for health programs," Tierney said. "We're not encouraging sexual activity, but we recognize people have sex and we work to reduce risk."

Tierney said that virtually no organization in the nation submits "every single paper, every poster, every ad, every Web page" to federal regulators, for either HIV prevention funds or Ryan White

CARE Act funds, which provide services to people living with AIDS. That will change, at least for programs in San Francisco, he added.

"Now it's been clear we have to do it," Tierney told the B.A.R. "We have taken steps to be in compliance."

Gibson said that Stop AIDS' nearly 200 workshops have served 1,200 people this year. Some of the sessions are designed for small groups; others for audiences as large as 100.

"What Stop AIDS is doing in 2001 is to re-engage gay men about HIV. One of our strategies has been to push the envelope, to be more provocative. We have found it effective. Is it enough? No.

"Gay men in San Francisco are sexually active and we have a responsibility to talk to them about reducing risk," Gibson said.

Out of a total of an estimated 1,082 HIV infections this year in San Francisco, more than 800 will be gay and bisexual men, Gibson said. "The primary risk behavior for gay and bisexual men is unprotected anal intercourse. We are not promoting sex, we are speaking to a community of sexually active adults about reducing the risk of HIV."

In the 20 years since the AIDS epidemic, HIV prevention groups

have had to adapt messages that reach gay and bisexual men. Gibson noted that Stop AIDS, for example, couldn't host a workshop where men were told to "wear a condom every time." No one would come, Gibson said, and that message, while still an important part of HIV prevention efforts, has been drummed into gay and bisexual men for two decades.

Over the years, Stop AIDS has developed HIV prevention workshops for various communities, including "Leatherfuck" (leather community), "Trannyfags" (for female-to-male transgenders), "Our Love" (African American men), and "Q Action" (queer youth).

"We're trying to get their attention," Gibson said of Stop AIDS' efforts, "and we involve members of the communities in workshops."

Gibson noted that AIDS organization critic Michael Petrelis initially contacted the conservative Souter about Stop AIDS' workshops. "It's his typical tactics to climb into bed with whoever helps him," Gibson said of Petrelis, who has long sought cuts in funding for what he terms "AIDS Inc." and has worked with conservative politicians in the past. ▼

Mario Rodriguez

Feb. 4, 1964 — Nov. 8, 2001

On Thursday, November 8, 2001, Mario Rodriguez passed away peacefully at SF General Hospital due to advanced AIDS complications.

We would like to thank the nurses and doctors of SF General Hospital for the compassionate medical care that was provided to our friend.

A special mass service was scheduled for Saturday, November 17. Further information can be obtained by calling (415) 771-4804.

Manuel "Sam" Begino

March 24, 1931 — Nov. 6, 2001



The city lost one of its biggest smiles from a friendly and most generous person.

Well known in the Polk, Castro and Folsom communities for his friendly smile with his hands behind

his back as he greeted you. Overcome by cancer, Sam died November 6 at St. Luke's hospital. Born in Winnemucca, Nevada, Begino served in the Navy during the Korean War. He then received a degree in Finance from Tulane University in New Orleans. Sam worked in The City at some well-known landmarks such as Buzby's on Polk, Holy Cow on Folsom and the last eight years at the Badlands on 18th St.

Sam loved fine dining and was very generous with his friends. He also had a very kind heart and would frequently buy food for people in need on Polk St. He was well known at Reflections at the gargoyles post as "Trailer Trash Sam" by the locals, and Sam always had a story to tell. An icon sure to be missed by many. A celebration of his life is going to be held at Reflections on Polk on December 9th, 3-6 p.m.

Todd James Shield



The voices and antics of a great friend were silenced suddenly on November 3, 2001, three days shy of 50 and two weeks shy of Harry Potter (the motion picture).

Those who knew him will miss the many characters ready to burst forth at a moment's notice, from Katherine Hepburn to Yoda, and a wit sharper than his design knife.

Todd was born in Linwood, Pennsylvania. He began his foray into the world of floral design at the age of 17, a career that took him across the country and across the Pacific, where he taught Western design in Japan and Taiwan. Most recently, he worked at Rosebowl Florist and Wine Shop in San Francisco.

To all the lives he touched, Todd will be greatly missed. He was truly one of a kind. Our loss is now the gain of the people who have already left us, including his father, his brother Tim, and many, many friends. Somewhere now, he is laughing with the angels.

Josh Puckett

◀ page 4

other prisoner was drunk and had just gotten out of solitary confinement for masturbating in front of a female corrections officer.

Sanchez told the B.A.R. that there is no evidence to support Puckett's claim he was provoked.

"If that's the case, nobody observed it," Sanchez said. "The staff observed him without warning strike the other inmate. The other inmate never saw it coming. The other guy was totally caught off guard."

Puckett wrote that he was being treated unfairly for protecting himself from an inmate who was disrespecting him. Puckett said he is fighting back now against what he considers to be unfair treatment in prison. Sanchez said that Puckett had contacted several outside agencies to file complaints about the prison.

"I'm so sick and tired of this corrupt system," Puckett told the B.A.R. "There's no rehabilitation. The inmates are only two-thirds of the criminals in prison. The other one-third work here. It's as if they feel the need to assure job security. They create this hostile

environment and then punish us for acting accordingly. Crazy.

"I punched a man one time. A man who admittedly was drunk, taking [psychiatric medications], 'accidentally' kicked me and disrespected me.

"I deal with the CO's [correction officers] shit talking, sexual innuendoes, mood swings, and numerous other things, and they want to railroad me on this?"

Puckett said that as a result of the incident he's already been told that he'll lose good time credits, delaying his parole by six months, and he's been assigned a 15-month term in the special housing unit of the prison where he'll have fewer privileges than the general population. Puckett will still be allowed visitors but for only an hour at a time and through a glass partition.

Puckett pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter in 1998 for beating to death gay Russian émigré Vitaly Poliakov in a house in the upscale East Bay city of Orinda. As part of the plea-bargain agreement, Puckett also pleaded guilty to first-degree burglary for breaking into a house near the homicide scene. He was sentenced to 13 years, eight months, with the stipulation he serve at least 80 per-

cent of that sentence. Prior to the prison assault charge, Puckett was scheduled to parole in 2008, when he would be 28.

Puckett confessed that he killed Poliakov, 29, but said he acted in self-defense to prevent a sexual assault. Weeks before the Poliakov killing, Puckett — who says he's straight — posed for the gay youth glossy, XY. By the time the magazine was distributed, Puckett was already in jail charged with murder.

When Puckett was sentenced for the homicide, he already had a prior strike on his record for a 1996 armed robbery of a 7-Eleven store in his hometown of Atascadero, about halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles. Puckett was just 16 at the time of that robbery but was treated as an adult because of his prior record of juvenile crime. If he's convicted of the prison assault, it will be his third strike resulting in a life sentence.

An appeals court recently found the three-strike law was unconstitutional as it was applied to a man who shoplifted from a Kmart store, but most legal experts don't expect that ruling will affect other three-strike cases because they expect it will be overturned by higher courts. ▼

Mark Bingham

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ation department involves the community in the process before a decision is made. And he said he would inform Goldstein about the discussion of a memorial that he held with community leaders and residents earlier this month.

"On the positive side of the idea to name the rec center, Mark is also known for his athletic accomplishments, particularly him being a player on a gay rugby team. So naming the rec center for him makes sense," said Leno.

Bryce Eberhart, a friend of Bingham's and co-founder of the rugby team SF Fog, said he hopes the public comes out in support of the renaming.

"Mark's ex-partner and I were talking about it a little bit, and Paul brought it to the Rec and Park Commission. Sports was so much a part of Mark's life, that any kind of memorial to Mark really had to have some athletic sports component to it," said

Eberhart. "It feels right to me and the right way to honor Mark."

As for another memorial, that remains a possibility.

"It is my sense people want to do something and people are exploring different options right now. I think they are all fantastic," said Eberhart. "He was a great person and can make everyone in San Francisco's gay and lesbian community proud since he was born and raised here."

During the commission meet-

ing, Goldstein said the department intends to send a notice to the community about the renaming proposal. With the Eureka Valley Community Center slated for renovation, the department has already developed an extensive mailing list of interested parties.

"We have no reason to believe this is controversial," she said. "We will see if there is a need to actually have a public meeting. Otherwise, we will bring back the item in January." ▼

Dennis Herrera

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of the Mission Council on Substance Abuse for the Spanish Speaking, and a neighborhood activist in the Potrero District.

Herrera emphasizes his legal rather than political experience, which is evident in his broad range of endorsements across political lines, including the San Francisco Firefighters Union, Supervisors Sophie Maxwell and Aaron Peskin, and former Super-

visor Angela Alioto. LGBT support includes Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, Supervisor Mark Leno, Assemblywoman Carole Migden, and the two LGBT Democratic clubs which will set a precedent by working on joint mailers and voter turn-out together.

"We're concerned that many people may not be aware of the facts of this race," said the Milk Club's Threet. "So we're doing everything we can to get the word out about the importance of this choice for our communities." ▼

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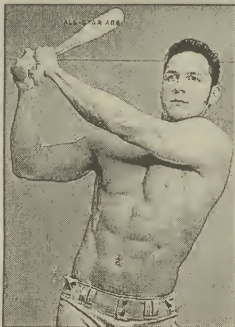
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Take me out of the ball game

by Jim Provenzano

Gay male baseball fans have a few more reasons for disappointment. Brady Anderson was released from his team of 14 years, the Baltimore Orioles.

Anderson, 37, had one year left on his \$31 million, five-year contract. But don't cry for Brady. He's still getting a cool \$4 million as a parting gift.



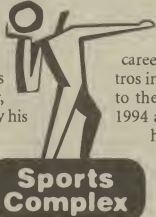
Brady Anderson

Brady lost his role as the Orioles' leadoff hitter last season. He batted only .202 with eight home runs and 45 RBIs. Despite gaining fame for hitting 50 home runs in 1996, Anderson's recent lackluster efforts came to a head when he struck out to end the Orioles' season with retiring third baseman Cal Ripken Jr. on deck. Not a good day to flub up, when one of his oldest friends' last hurrahs got global attention.

"This is a very difficult thing for us because there is no question

that Brady has epitomized what being an Oriole is all about," said Syd Thrift, the team's vice president of baseball operations, in a press statement. "He has given us 100 percent every day. We just felt the direction we were going in did not guarantee a position for Brady on next year's team, and to bring him back to compete for a spot would be unfair to him."

East Coast fans can still see him play — tennis, that is. For the past six years Anderson made guest lobs at the Chevy Chase Bank Tennis Challenge, a celebrity benefit. Anderson wowed crowds last year when he peeled off his shirt and showed off his famed lean musculature, made even more famous by his shirtless poster and photo spread in *Muscular Fitness* magazine. Anderson also posed wet and in (frustratingly long) swim trunks for a recent *Sports Illustrated* for Women swimsuit issue, furthering his Adonis-like reputation.



Make me out if you can

Numerous Brady fan sites, created and maintained mostly by women, expressed frustration with the Orioles for losing one of their most popular players. Some even took down the Orioles logos as a sign of protest.

Other sites maintain a rabid fascination with the hunk, known for his sideburns and a tendency to date blond models, singers, and tennis players, despite the rumors.

Some personal facts: He wears size 11 1/2 shoes, he plays in Caribbean leagues in the winter, one of his favorite books is Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*, and for his Halloween costume a few years back, he dressed as the Flintstones character Pebbles.

Brady's most recent girlfriend is former gymnast Sonia Vassi from the group Creep. She was born in Bulgaria, became Miss Bulgaria, "defected" to the U.S., then posed for *Playboy*.

Brady's also quoted on his future ambitions, which include, "be(mg) respected as a player by my teammates and other players. As a team goal — to be in a World Series. Play well in a World Series. Win a World Series. After baseball, have a family and spend a lot of time with my wife."

Hopefully, some smart team, perhaps a nearby West Coast team, will have the smarts to hire one of the handsomest players around, so he can accomplish those goals. Maybe he's done with baseball. It would be our loss.

As to the goal of matrimony in the face of gay rumors, I wish him happiness, whichever his preference. And to paraphrase Tallulah Bankhead when asked if Monty Clift was gay, "I don't know, honey, he never struck my bat!"

For info on Brady's appearance on the tennis courts back east, visit www.tennischallenge.org.

Buy me some peanuts and crack

If the smooth-chested jock isn't your type, you may be a fan of burly Ken Caminiti. If you're in Narcotics Anonymous, you may want to sponsor him.

The one-time National League Most Valuable Player was arrested when police found him in a Houston hotel room with crack cocaine, a police spokesman told the media that jumped on the story.

Caminiti has a history of drug and alcohol problems. He was

jailed last week on charges of possession of a controlled substance and booked into Harris County Jail. There were no reports of how many gay Houston men committed misdemeanors in the hopes of sharing a cell.

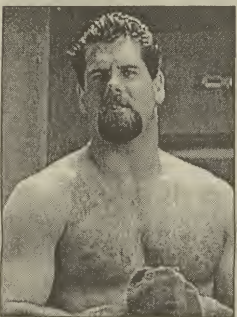
Police stopped a man driving Caminiti's 2001 Mercedes, (since he is African American, although no press reports admit this). Lacking the registration, Ken's "friend" led them to the hotel, where the unmistakable odor of a burning crack pipe led to a search, and Caminiti's arrest.

The burly third baseman began his career with the Houston Astros in 1987, then was traded to the San Diego Padres in 1994 after a bout with alcohol abuse in 1993.

Two years later he hit .326, had 40 home runs and 130 runs batted in and was named Most Valuable

Player as the Padres won the National League Western Division Championship. He returned to the Astros in 1999, but soon left the team for drug treatment.

Caminiti began the 2001 sea-



Ken Caminiti

son with the Texas Rangers, but was released in mid-season at his own request and signed with the Atlanta Braves.

With such a pinball career of great hits and multiple uniform changes, it seems drugs took him away from his problems. Sad, really sad, that people could make so much money doing something so seemingly fun, and be so obviously messed up.

I don't care if I ever go back

Update on big Mark McGwire:

Black & Latino

◀ page 12

there also is a perception of gays as being white, economically advantaged, and in less need of such protection.

"The people they thought of as gay were all white, so it was, okay, here are these white people who have a problem that we can relate to," said Feldman. "There was very little discussion, except when we brought it up, of people of color who are gay." Yet when the subject was raised, those in the focus groups believed that all racial and ethnic groups shared a similar incidence of homosexuality.

Support for gay issues increases in the younger age groups, particularly those under 25. Feldman believes this is a fundamental change in society that will persist as they grow older. She noted that those over 50 were shaped by segregation and the struggle to end it, while the younger generation was

He's engaged! Oh well. Twenty-four-year-old Stephanie Slemmer of Glen Carbon, Illinois, will be the envy of many gay fans.

So let's root, root, root for the home team

With all this sad baseball news, let's switch to football.

Other than last week's report of a Louisiana ex-footballer getting caught transporting his weight in pot, and last month's "detainment" of a NY Giants footballer with a loaded arsenal of semi-automatic weapons in his car, I've avoided the National Felons League rap sheet. What's the cure for all that misplaced testosterone? Women's football.

The Oakland Banshees are part of the new women's American Football League, a national league that began a year ago and now has 16 teams. The Banshees are part of the Central Pacific Division. Based on a recent TV news story showing them being met by Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown, these are some very strong women, in or out of shoulder pads.

The team lacks its own playing field and stadium, though, so they tend to hop around for games. Fundraising and running a team have become tough since September 11. Six players for the Banshees have left to serve in the military, and that week was supposed to be the league's premiere set of games.

But the season continues in the Bay Area this Saturday, November 24, 1 p.m., at 2600 Mission Bell Drive, in San Pablo. Check 'em out! More next week. For info, maps, tickets and articles, visit www.thewall.com/teams/banshees/.

If it don't rhyme it's no shame

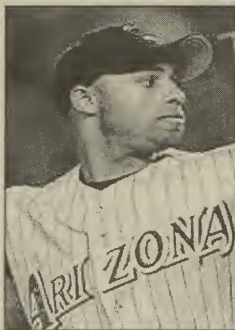
Okay, just a little more baseball.

Gorgeous Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Miguel Batista is quite the literary type. He had a book of poetry titled *Feelings in Black and White* published in his native Dominican Republic earlier this year, and is working on a novel.

"I feel like I'm pregnant with ideas," he said. "And I'm just trying to give birth to all of them."

Here's one of Miguel's odes off the mound:

Untitled
"Somewhere out there
There is a place where I belong



Miguel Batista

Where the peace is always there
And my heart doesn't feel alone
Somewhere out there so magical
Full of fairies and waterfalls
With a pretty silver moon
That every night I can see glow
Somewhere out there where I'll be free
Of all things that make me cry
Where I can always rest my soul
And never have a broken heart
Somewhere out there where I can be
Just like a bird that flies through the sky
With the movement of his wings
And the power of his heart."

For it's one, two, three strikes, not out

Amid the wash of post-Brendan Lemon gay baseball player speculation, the Salon.com article by Steve Kettmann includes a few gaping holes.

"I got a tip from a gay friend that a certain East Coast star — maybe even Lemon's boyfriend, if his story is legit — was a regular at a gay bar in town. A visit to the gay bar left little doubt that the story was true. The star's picture was on a ledge above the bar. Several people there had stories about the star that passed a beat writer's bullshit tests."

And not naming the bar or the player falls whose bullshit test?

Not the old ball game!

Recently sold on eBay for \$160: a pair of used game pants worn by now-former Oriole Brady Anderson.

This from Bob Uecker: "My best year was 1965, when I made about \$21,000. And \$17,000 of that came from selling other players' equipment." ▼

Buy sports books and more (for a lot less than \$160) at www.sportsclothes.com. Send GLBT sports info (and gossip) to: jimprov@hotmail.com.

SAGA North Ski & Snowboard Club

Trips to Aspen, Whistler, Copper Mtn.
Weekend & day trips to Lake Tahoe
Next day trips: Dec. 15, Jan. 5
* all ability levels *
* beginner learn-to-ski programs *

(415) 995-2772 www.saganorth.com
email: info@saganorth.com
182 Howard Street, PM Box 414
San Francisco, CA, 94105

Using Cocaine?

Need Help?
Have Questions?
Want to Learn More?

UCSF is conducting a Research Study with Individual Treatment and Medication...
\$\$\$Reimbursement Provided\$\$\$

Call
(415) 514-2964

Miss Millie's

Dinner and Weekend Brunch
4123 24th St. 285-5598

Mayor in Castro

◀ page 2

"Corporations equal terrorism" sticker over the store's "America: Open for Business" poster.

Undeterred, Brown circled back to 19th and Castro, stopping into the newly opened Getups store on the corner. Owner Miles Barry shook the mayor's hand and took a sign.

"We are a new crazy, store. So come on in to shop," he said of his vintage-style clothing store.

Before the mayor's driver whisked him off to more mun-

dane city business, Brown darted into owner Boyd Swartz's Castro Village Wine Company.

"I think this is the best thing you have ever done," Swartz told the mayor before offering him a glass of wine.

Politely refusing, Brown said his good-byes and took off 30 minutes after his arrival. As his staff packed up the leftover posters and T-shirts, a worker at Castro Photo inquired about the mayor's visit.

Upon being informed of the "America: Open for Business" theme, he stated, "I didn't know we were closed." ▼

HEALTH RESOURCES

Acupuncture

The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

ADD Support Group

Informal support group for gays and lesbians with Attention Deficit Disorder. Call Chuck, 282-7983.

AIDS Community Research Consortium
Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia CARE Unit

At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impairments. Call Stephen Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund

Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project

Concerned about HIV, dating, sex, intimacy? Free individual and group counseling & support services for HIV-negative, HIV-positive, and untested gay and bisexual men. For info, call 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline

Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel

Assists persons w/HIV on legal problems, incl. wills, powers of attorney, benefits, more. Free or reduced fee. 291-5454.

AIDS Memorial Grove

Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Project of the East Bay

HIV education & prevention programs, case management, emotional & practical support for people in Alameda Co. 1755 Broadway, 2nd floor, Oakland, (510) 663-7979

AIDS Support Group

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group provides practical, emotional, and, where desired, spiritual support for persons living with AIDS without regard to religious preference, age, race, gender, sexual preference, or disability. Volunteer training provided. For info or to volunteer, call (415) 863-1581.

AIDS Treatment Education Network
Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strategies. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project

"We Are Family," on-going support & support for gay men. Tues. & Thurs., 7pm. Call for no-fee intake. 436-9000.

Alzheimer's Association

Free SF support groups: 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 2:30-3pm. UCSF Mt. Zion Center in Spanish, 3600 Geary Blvd. (Also, groups in English, Chinese.) (510) 660-1933.

ARIS

AIDS resources, information and services of Santa Clara county, drop-in support group meetings. 408-293-ARIS.

Asians & Leather

Support group for gay Asian men who identify with leather. Info: c/o Pacific Friends, P.O. Box 641008, or e-mail lchoi415@aol.com

Asians & Pacific Islanders with HIV
Weekly support group, activities, retreats. Treatment info. API Wellness Center, 292-3400 x336.

Baker Places

Provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

BAPHR

Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights offers support services to med. students, physicians. 558-9353.

Bay Positives

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Baylands Family Circle

Nonprofit group of families headed by gay, lesbian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for social. Call Tom, 858-2468.

Bereavement Groups

For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Breast Cancer Action

Carries the voices of people affected by breast cancer to inspire and compel the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic. For info, call 243-9301.

Brown Boys

Drop in group for gay/bi Latino men under 25, addressing HIV and other survival issues. Meets every Mon. at 6:30pm. PCPV, 2973 16th St. 864-7278.

Buddhist AIDS Project

Provides info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

Cal-Pep

Dedicated to providing innovative HIV education, outreach, prevention, case management, HIV/hepatitis/STD testing, and substance abuse counseling in San Francisco and Alameda counties. For more info, contact California HIV Prevention & Education Project at 510-874-7850 or visit them at 405 14th Street in downtown Oakland. All services are free.

Center for Special Problems

Groups for people with: Gay's men's spirituality and healing group beginning 9/28; gay men's mid-life group beginning 9/27; heterosexual men's group beginning 9/28. Must call for times and to pre-register. 292-1521.

Community United Against Violence

Provides services for LGBT victims of domestic violence and hate crimes. Also needs volunteer counselors on 24-hour crisis line. Call NHU at 777-5500. For emergency 24-hour crisis line, call 333-HELP.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Gay and lesbian Jewish synagogue. Services every Friday at 8:15pm. 290 Dolores Street at 16th Street. 861-6932.

Connections

Is a confidential, one-on-one peer support focusing on HIV prevention by and for gay men of color. Free. Call 356-8114.

Davies Med. Center

Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. Info: 565-6369.

Deaf AIDS Center

At UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

Diabetics

Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

Dimensions

Comprehensive health, mental health, and substance abuse services for LGBTQ youth ages 12-25 in a safe, supportive environment. Sliding scale based on income. No one is turned away. Every Thursday from 5 to 8pm at 3850 17th Street, at Pond, in the Castro. Drop-in or by appointment. Call 487-7589.

Drug Detox Program

Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care, counseling and education. Free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

Eden I & R

Information & referral for AIDS/affordable housing, HIV service providers in Alameda Co. (510) 537-2600.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services

Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. (650) 572-9702.

FABRIC

A support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-9939, x318/504.

Filipino Task Force on AIDS

Provides prevention, education and direct care services to Filipinos and others affected by HIV/AIDS. 1540 Market, Suite 325. Info: 703-9880.

Full Circle Community Counseling

We offer low-cost services which support, encourage, and challenge people to realize their unlimited potential. Take the step to go beyond the pain of your past to experience the freedom of who you really are. Offices in SF and the East Bay. 255-0100.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic

Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Gay Young Spirit

A new spiritual/social group for gay men in their 20s & 30s, meets alternate Tues., 7:15pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project

Free, confidential Orasure HIV antibody testing, Wed. 12:3-4pm. Case management, support groups, AIDS prevention and education. 330 Ellis, Suite 518. 567-2273.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox

Outpatient, medical drug detox. and acute medical care, counseling, and HIV education. Free. Drop in Monday-Friday 11 am to 6 pm at 529 Clayton or call Hector, 565-1908.

Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic

Confidential, free, client-centered HIV testing, provided conveniently in the evening at an accessible location. Test results are not kept on file. 487-5632

Hepatitis B Testing

And vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men. Free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

HIV/AIDS Risk Reduction Program

Behavior change support group for gay & bi men, focus on speed injection & unsafe sex behaviors. Free. Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic, 1696 Haight. Call Bill or Bonnie, 565-1927.

HIVCare

Offers the latest clinical trials from community-based trial network, access to experimental treatment. Free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Drop-In Groups

Co-ed for people with HIV, Wed., 8pm. Men with HIV, Tues., 10am. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1543.

HIV Group

Weekly group for men with HIV/AIDS. Sixteen Wed. sessions from 1-2:30pm. Free to SF residents. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1534.

HIV Negative Gay Men's Support Group

In the South Bay, meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, (408) 293-2747.

HIV Sitting Group

Meditation for those with HIV, caregivers, friends. Tues., Thurs., Fri., 10:30am (beginners: 10:20am). Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. Info: 863-2507.

HIV Testing

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1st Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

Home Care Companions

Provides classes on how to care for a loved one living with AIDS or cancer. For next class sessions, info, call 824-3269.

Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs

Provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co. 368-9989.

Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Iris Center

Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Istituto Laboral de la Raza

Helps low income and unemployed workers with labor issues, union organizing, family support. 431-7522.

Last Drag Smoking Cessation

Free quit smoking class for LGTB & HIV-positive smokers. Quit smoking in a confidential and supportive group setting. Classes led by a highly skilled and experienced clinical leader certified by the American Lung Association. Voice mail: (415) 565-7672, ext. 351 or www.lastdrag.org.

Laughingstock

Free comedy improv workshop for people with HIV/AIDS, presented by Bay Area Theatropers. Call for sessions 474-8935.

LeatherFuck

Small group workshops covering subjects of interest to leather and leather-curious men, as well as those involved with and exploring the SM scene. A chance to talk about fucking, roles, trust, community, safety, risk, and power. A workshop of the Stop AIDS Project. 575-0155.

Lesbian Social Group

For lesbians and bisexual women in Tri-Cities/So. Alameda Co. Thurs., 7pm at the Edge, 39160 State, Fremont. (510) 790-2887.

Lesbian Support Groups

On mental health issues: peer counseling, support and referrals for SF residents. Call Connie, 552-0788.

Lesbians with Cancer

12 week psycho-social support group at the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market. Classes are offered on a sliding scale basis. Call 565-7672 x370 to register.

Linea de Ambiente

Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi Latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of GELA. Info: 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center

Confidential, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women with women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC's After School

Drop-in for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, 18 and under. Daily, 3-6pm, M-F. 123 Collingwood. 703-6150.

Maitri Residential Care

For people disabled by HIV requiring 24-hour medical care. For info or to volunteer, call 558-3000.

Medical Cannabis Delivery System

Serves homebound and ambulatory patients in SF and the East Bay. Fax: 255-7489. 2261 Market, #478, SF 94114. 436-9448.

Meditation Sessions

For caregivers, people with HIV, significant others. Free. Tues., Thurs., Fri. at 10:15am. Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. 863-2507.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault

Operates sexual assault hotline for men. Mon., Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

Men's Circle

Despite the painful and distressing events in your past, you can move beyond these experiences and learn to reconnect with others and with living fully and freely again. Come and join other gay/bi men on this journey to freedom. Full Circle Community Counseling. Low fees/free initial intake. 255-0100.

Mental Health - Team II Clinic

Provides psychotherapy, case management, medications. Specializes in services to the gay and lesbian community. Medical, Medicare, third party insurance accepted. Sliding scale. Part of SF Dept. of Public Health. 298 Monterey Blvd., near Glen Park BART station. Call Stan at 337-4795 for information.

Molested Boys:

"Wounded Men, Recovery from Sexual Abuse" free audiotape. Call 552-4270.

Most Holy Redeemer

AIDS support group. Seeking volunteers to provide in-home practical and emotional support to PWAs. For information and application, call 863-1581.

Mothers Organizing Mothers

Working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 422-4639 or 212-6651 for information.

Movement and Voice

Group for HIV+, Men, no experience necessary. Monday nights, 7pm. Call Paul, (510) 763-5900.

MWM

A rap group for gay/bi Asian Pacific Islander men and their partners. Wed. nights, 6:30pm. Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420, 227-0946.

Native American AIDS Project

Provides resources and advocacy for Native Americans/Alaskan Natives and their families affected by HIV. 1540 Market St., Suite 425. Info/intake: 522-2460.

New Leaf

Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

Our Love

Free workshops and forums for and about African American gay and bisexual men building a strong, healthy community, including Deeper Love groups for more intimate discussion. A program of the Stop AIDS Project. 575-0150, ext. 273.

Outline

Free HIV info and support using Windows or Macintosh graphic interface. Info: 554-0555 or info@out.org

Pacific Center

Counseling services, social groups for queer youth & adults, sliding scale. 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. (510) 548-8283.

Pacific Center Walnut Creek

Support groups for queer and questioning people, counseling referrals and information. (510) 939-7711.

Planetree Health Resource Center

Up-to-date medical info to assist in making informed health choices. Extensive consumer health library, current medical lit clippings and health bookstore. Also support groups, health information service by mail. 2040 Webster St. 923-3680.

The Positive Center

Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Positive Gay Humanists

Internet organization to end discrimination & violence, meets Tues. at 7:30pm. Info: 285-0606.

Positive Resource Center

Provides work referrals and benefits counseling to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening, attend an employment opportunity orientation, or set up an appointment for benefits counseling call 777-0333.

Project HOPE

Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand

Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Projecto ContraSIDA Por Vida

Counseling and workshops on HIV and other life issues for gay, les, bi and trans Latinos/as. 864-7278.

Psychic Horizons

Free introductory meditation class Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. 2240 Geary Blvd. 346-7906.

PWA Long-Term Survivors

Support group for men; small, friendly, pro-active. Call Carol, 584-1708.

Q Action

Cool programs for guys 25 and under who dig other guys, chill, chat, and find a date. A program of the Stop AIDS Project. Check us out at 415-865-0790, ext. 304 or www.qaction.org.

Question HIV

Support group, share stories, every Mon., 7pm. Call for location and info. 252-1381.

Radical Women

Business mtg 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

Rafiki Services Project

Enhancing quality of life for African American people living with AIDS in SF. 346-5860.

re plen ish

Offers individual and group retreats for professional caregivers in the HIV community. Info: Kay, 864-5140 or write P.O. Box 410592, SF 94141.

Richard M. Cohen Residence

SF's first assisted-living residence for people disabled by AIDS, needs volunteers (call 558-0503) and household donations (call 282-6209).

Richmond Area Multi-Services in SF

Offers low fee counseling/psychotherapy services to sexual minorities, people with HIV/AIDS. Support/therapy groups for family/loved ones of PWAs in English, Russian, Cantonese, Vietnamese. 668-5955.

Sadhana Brothers

Gay/bi men's Hindu/Yogic fellowship, meets monthly for chanting, meditation, informal discussion. Call Ed, 647-4388.

San Mateo County AIDS Program

Provides prevention, health care, services and advocacy. Volunteer resources coordinators: (650) 573-2488. Information: (650) 573-2588.

SCA

Sexual Compulsive Anonymous meets Mon. at 7:15pm & Fri. at 6:30pm, 1874 Market. 1-800-977-HEAL.

Senior Central

Provides info, referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors. Free and confidential services. 360 4th St. 77

LEGAL NOTICES

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY: FILLMORE JAZZ PRESERVATION DISTRICT ANCHOR SITE available for a mixed-use development (Western Addition A-2 Redevelopment project area), San Francisco, Ca. Parcel 732-A (northeast corner of Fillmore and Eddy Sts.). Approx. 52,940 s.f. Medium Density with 160 feet height limit. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Call (415) 749-2495. www.ci.sf.ca.us/sfra for additional details. San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, 770 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors for November 26, 2001 has been canceled.

YOUTH RECOGNITION DAY: On Monday, December 3, 2001, @ 4 p.m., the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the San Francisco Youth Commission present Youth Recognition Day, a day in which the Board of Supervisors will recognize and honor 11 youth who have made a positive impact on their community. (This will be a special order at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors).

Location: Legislative Chamber, City Hall Room 250. For more information, call the Youth Commission (415) 554-6446.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS; LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE & RELATED SERVICES COMMUNITY FACILITY DISTRICT NO. 1, RINCON POINT-SOUTH BEACH, REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA. Request for a RFP Packet: Linda Ma at (415) 749-2466 or www.ci.sf.ca.us/sfra for additional details. San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, 770 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102.

SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH: Free or low-cost health care, (800) 300-9950. If you or someone you know needs immunizations, check-ups, dental care, birth control, pregnancy testing, or prenatal care, call us. We are here to help women, teens, and children find free or low-cost health care. The San Francisco Department of Public Health provides referrals to clinics, doctors, and dentists in San Francisco. Our English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin speaking staff are here to take your call, Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

WIC Program - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Supplemental Nutrition Program provides nutrition education, food vouchers, and breastfeeding support for pregnant women, postpartum women, infants, and children younger than five. Vouchers are picked up at a WIC site on a monthly/bimonthly basis and may be exchanged for milk, cheese, eggs, cereal, juice, peanut butter/beans, and infant formulas in most grocery stores. All WIC services are free of charge. For more information, please call (415) 554-9667.

PUBLIC MEETING: The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the SF Dept. of the Environment will be holding a series of meetings to hear from the public about creating a long-term energy plan for San Francisco. The plan will include environmental justice concerns and renewable energy.

The meetings will be on Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at Hoover Middle School, 2294 14th Ave.; Thursday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Galileo High School, 1150 Francisco at Van Ness; Saturday, Dec. 1 at 10 a.m. at Mission High School, 3750 18th St. and Saturday, Dec. 1 at 4 p.m. at the Bayview Opera House at 4705 3rd St. For more information, call Lolita Sweet, SF Dept. of the Environment at 554-3400.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252650

The following person(s) are doing business as Vee Tailor, 1847 Lincoln Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Wah-Kam Cheung. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/30/2001.

NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252669

The following person(s) are doing business as Blackbelt Direct, Inc. 1800 Bryant Street Unit 214, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Anthony Branda, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 30, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/30/2001.

NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252700

The following person(s) are doing business as LSK Consulting, 538 42nd Avenue Apt. A, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Larry Kravitz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 31, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/31/2001.

NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252728

The following person(s) are doing business as Chavez & Associates, 1274 Green Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Paul Vincent Chavez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, November 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/01/2001.

NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252634

The following person(s) are doing business as Flowers, 511 Laguna Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hal Thomas Reid Jr. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/30/2001.

NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 2001-0247140-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: West Ocean Trading Co. Located at: 848 Edinburg Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: March 02, 2001.

This business was conducted by: a General Partnership signed: Danny R Q Wong and Richu Huang

NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 01-540016

In the Matter of the Application of Terri Mesbah, for change of Name. The application of Terri Mesbah for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Terri Mesbah has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Targol Mesbah. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of December at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. NOV. 8, 15, 22, 29, 2001

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540013

In the Matter of the Application of Schomae, for change of Name. The application of Schomae for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Schomae has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Schomae Ofilinda. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 18th day of December at 9:30am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. NOV. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252581

The following person(s) are doing business as Bangkok Best #2, 1817 Farrell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Vena Shotvayaratana. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/26/2001.

NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252851

The following person(s) are doing business as Domoras Gallery For Voice, 950 Harrison Street #214, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed William T. Domoras. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 15, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/06/2001.

NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252709

The following person(s) are doing business as Parasele Software, 302 Garces Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Neil Gregory Luna and Winnie Chau. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/31/2001.

NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252238

The following person(s) are doing business as Esquivel Delivery Service, 130 Granville Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Anthony Esquivel. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, March 10, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/15/2001.

NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252953

The following person(s) are doing business as Jin Qing Construction Co., 2927 Balboa Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jin Qing Liang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, November 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/13/2001.

NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252971

The following person(s) are doing business as Harlin Consulting, 318 Caselli Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Thomas H. Smith. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, March 20, 1992. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/13/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252979

The following person(s) are doing business as Film-Theatre Actors Exchange, 390 28th Avenue #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Craig Jones. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, December 18, 1991. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/13/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252568

The following person(s) are doing business as SF Fusion Volleyball, 204 Cheney Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Bich-Khol Do and Joyce N. Nilo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 22, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/26/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253071

The following person(s) are doing business as Just Fix It! 1015 Pierce Street #203, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jim Stahl. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, November 16, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/26/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540047

In the Matter of the Application of Alice Craig For change of Name. The application of Alice Craig for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Alice Craig has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Alice Wasenius. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 17th day of January, 2002; at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 220519

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Divas. Located at: 1081 Post Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: February 5, 1998.

This business was conducted by: a Business Trust: Mark Gilpin

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Ji Young Hee. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, Suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 229 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. Type of license Applied for: 41-ON- SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

NOVEMBER 22, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253097

The following person(s) are doing business as Divas, 1081 Post Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Stephen Charles Berkey. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/16/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001



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Manager of Research and Evaluation to research national, state, and local trends pertaining to funding in the area of direct social services for at-risk, homeless, and runaway youth. With other members of the management team, synthesize and integrate data collection into documents for publication in journals within our field. PhD in Social Work or Psychology required. \$45 - \$2K DOE.

Coordinator of Employment Readiness and Development to oversee the direction and growth of our Avenues to Independence Program (ATI), serving homeless and runaway youth ages 18-23. Responsibilities include the career and job readiness assessment and management for high functioning homeless and runaway youth, staff supervision, management of day-to-day operations of the program including some grants management, management of budgets and finances. ATI is an innovative employment career development program, housed in a 14 bed transitional living facility. Energetic and creative thinker is a must. Three years of youth program management, and experience with homeless and runaway youth required. Masters in related field, preferably MSW. \$41-45K DOE.

LOFT Coordinator manage the Larkin Opportunities For Transition Program offering a wide range of housing options for 16 and 17 year old runaway and homeless youth. Responsibilities include supervision of all staff, volunteers, interns, development and implementation of program services, grants management, and management of budgets and finances. Provide overall clinical supervision to the program team. \$41 - 45K DOE.

Senior Case Manager to provide services to high-risk youth who have been abused, are at risk for, or have HIV, and/or are involved in substance abuse. Intake and assessment, counseling, resource brokerage, follow-up and aftercare as needed. Master's in Counseling, Psychology, Social Work. \$39 - 43 K DOE.

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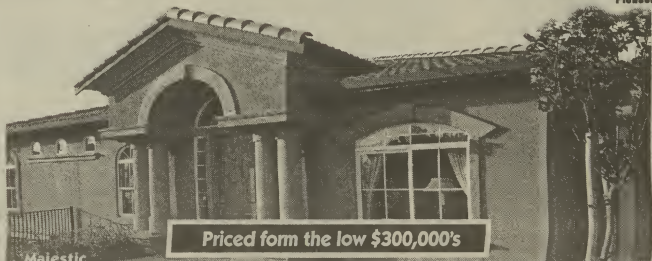
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253075
The following person(s) are doing business as: New Cheung Hing Restaurant, 1936 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Kin Bun and Dina Shu Honglam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, October 26, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/16/2001.

NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO. 223982
The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: New Cheung Hing Restaurant. Located at: 1936 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: July 6, 1998. This business was conducted by: an Individual: Peter Hao Zheng.
NOV. 22, 29, DEC. 6, 13, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252953
The following person(s) are doing business as: Jin Qing Construction Co. 2927 Balboa Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jin Qing Liang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, November 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco Ca. on 11/13/2001.
NOV. 15, 22, 29, DEC. 6, 2001

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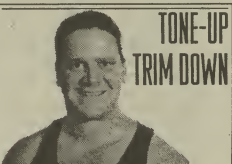
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Dr. Jeffrey Klausner is the Chief of San Francisco's STD Control Unit and an active officer of the federal Centers for Disease Control's Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS). He is a raving homophobe who must be stopped. In his own words, here's why:



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STRIKE ONE:

Klausner dehumanizes HIV+ gay men!

"Viagra can turn people with chemically induced erectile dysfunction into more effective transmitters of HIV and other STDs."

— "Evidence suggests Viagra use increases HIV infections among gay men"
Bay Area Reporter, October 25, 2001

STRIKE TWO:

Klausner demonizes gay sex as destructive!

AOL did offer the health officials free access to their chat rooms. However, Klausner said that is not sufficient. He wants [warning] messages to be continuously shown in the chat rooms, day and night. "They should be continuous messages until the risk is abated, in the same way there are warnings on tobacco products or alcohol products," he said.

— "Health officials turn to computers to promote safer sex"
Bay Area Reporter, November 1, 2001

STRIKE THREE:

Klausner will quarantine homosexuals!

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, Director of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention and Control Services in San Francisco, has suggested a number of measures, some coercive, which he thinks would slow the increase of new HIV infections among gay men. Among them: closing sex clubs and adult bookstores; enforcing no-sex ordinances in bars and clubs; enforcing no-drug policies in bars and clubs; and Internet-based outreach and education, particularly in chat rooms where many gay men meet new sexual partners.

Putting aside political realities when brainstorming on this subject, Klausner also raised the possibility of quarantining those who cannot control their infectivity—e.g., those barebackers who've infected 20 different people and still refuse to use condoms. Many of these measures would probably be infeasible in the current political climate. Still, this doesn't mean they shouldn't be discussed. After all, in an environment where there are no consequences for actions that threaten the public health, it may be necessary to create some."

— "When Rubbers Hit The Road"
The Washington Monthly, November 2001, www.washingtonmonthly.com

HE IS OUT OF CONTROL!

Caution: Cinema of Transgression
Hardcore on DVD offers snapshots of hell in all its Mansonesque gory glory.
page 40

He cut their dresses
Hollywood designer to the stars: the lavish Adrian.
page 30



Ah, 'Lady in the Dark'
Moss Hart's 1941 musical shines brightly in Marin.
page 28



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 47 • 22 November 2001

Acting on carnal desires in 'Second Skin'

Spanish queer love triangle

by Gary Morris

Im not like that!" says Alberto (Jordi Mollà) to his secret lover Diego (Javier Bardem). "That" is queer — a comment that's especially alarming following Alberto's recent wistful declaration of love. Gerardo Vera's steamy *Second Skin* (*Segunda Piel*), opening Friday at the Lumiere Theatre, presents the classic dilemma of the faithless husband with a gay twist.

Hunky engineer Alberto is married to Elena (Ariadna Gil), and they have a kid from the long-gone days when they were still having sex. But Alberto is bored to death with middle-class hetero life, though he also clings desperately to it. He's discovered his gay side, and pursues it furtively with the even hunkier Diego, a surgeon. Inevitably, the pressure of trying to have the social approval and ease that come with straight life along with a queer romance on the side causes Alberto to become both more crazed and more careless. He can't help but leave a little trail of cellphone messages and hotel receipts, which Elena discovers. From there, it's a dizzying spiral of accusations, unmet demands for love and commitment among all the parties, breakdowns, other

page 29 ►



Kim and Krista rock out

Dynamic duo

Below: Krista Enos and Kim Baker

by Joyce Luck



San Francisco is a city musicians flock to, seeking fame. Far too often, broke and discouraged, they find themselves departing for a scene that's not so competitive. But one local duo has put down roots, determined to make it happen. Kim & Krista, their growing fan base claims, are the City by the Bay's answer to the Indigo Girls.

Comparisons abound. Like the Indigo Girls, Kim Baker and Krista Enos play folk-rock that's more rock than folk. One is blonde (Baker), one brunette (Enos). One plays rhythm guitar (Enos), the other lead (Baker). One sings with a throaty, low contralto (Baker), while the other harmonizes in a sweet, soaring soprano (Enos). Unlike the Indigo Girls, Baker and Enos are romantic partners.

Indeed, Indigo Girl Amy Ray seems to have given the duo her own stamp of approval. DaemonUnderGround, Ray's website supporting independent music, contains a bio of the pair that reads, in part, "Kim and Krista have a rare and emotional rock-filled bliss about them. They can effortlessly careen from a soft, kneading acoustic stream into a rock-laced commanding passage without the listener ever catching the transition."

I'm sitting with Baker and Enos on the patio outside the Twinberry Café in El Granada, following one of the duo's gigs. They play here occasionally for fun, free food, and tips, yet today, which is dreary and

page 40 ►

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Acupuncture for music lovers

Björk partners Matmos take a health break

by Mark Mardon

It's karmic that I encountered Matmos in my acupuncturist's office. They look ordinary enough, but you know just by listening to their albums that if anyone is entitled to claim the word "alternative," it's this gay San Francisco electronic-music duo.

Appropriately, by weird coincidence, when I called licensed acupuncturist Joseph Chang one weekday to see if I could get him to stick his needles in me after work, at that very moment, Matmos boys Drew Daniel and M. C. (Martin) Schmidt were occupying the two tables in Joseph's place, the House of Qi, just around the corner from the Jon Sims Center for the Arts. "Come on over early, Joseph said, and I'll get them to hang around for an interview. Bring your tape recorder."

It helps to have such pull, especially when your interview subjects are in the midst of a world tour along with icy hot music goddess Björk, serving both as her opening act and as her band. The day I met them, they just happened to be back in town for a short break during the middle of their tour. They had come to Joseph to get body tune-ups and energy overhauls in preparation for the next leg of their journey.

They're just regular guys, but they're not. They're sexy and sweet natured, confess to naughty behaviors, and brainy but not show-offy (at least off-stage), and they welcome the chance to talk about acupuncture.

"Keep in mind we've known Joseph since he started acupuncture school," said Drew, the younger of the two young lovers. They've been letting Joseph poke them all these years. And that, too, is an odd fact in light of the fact they both are the progeny of medical doctors. Nevertheless, they have a healthy respect for Joseph's profession, and a particular fondness for Joseph's methods.

When they're in town, they both regularly come to Joseph for



The Matmos boys: M.C. Schmidt and Drew Daniel

treatments, and he lovingly pokes and prods them and twists and massages them to move their qi (chi) around and get them feeling refreshed. His treatments have been instrumental in Matmos's stunning, meteoric rise to fame.

They do things with sounds you wouldn't expect, generating all kinds of strange clicks and beeps and electronic hisses and pops and rhythms that somehow coalesce into listenable albums. Their mixing abilities and odd choices in instruments are what got them noticed by Björk, and why Matmos is now recognized as one of the most creative forces in the New Music genre.

And they have Joseph to thank for one of their hits, the piece they open all their solo sets with, and that's prominent on their latest album, "a chance to cut is a chance to cure" (Matador). It was from Joseph that they acquired a key noise-making instrument for the song *ur tchun tan tse qi*, Chinese for "acupuncture point detector."

"At one point in the process of becoming an acupuncturist," said Drew, "Joseph used as a teaching aid an Acupuncture Point Detector that helps you find acupuncture points. The way it works is that you hold a metal rod in one hand and you move a pin across your skin — your skin is completing the circuit, and your skin is

more conductive at acupuncture points than at other places on your body. This machine makes little clicks, and the closer it gets to an acupuncture point, the more clicks and faster, and it makes this incredible noise. We thought, wow, this noise is really cool. Can we borrow that? And we made a song entirely out of it."

"It was so long until we returned it that we bought another one," added Martin. Basically we stole it."

Joseph produced one of the devices for my inspection, but the boys quickly dismissed it as inferior to the one they stole.

"We looked for other Acupuncture Point Detectors," said Martin, but none of them made the right noise. This one was perfect. So we pretty much stole his technology, and we use it every night on the Björk tour; it's the first song of our set when we open for her."

As Martin spoke, Joseph ran the device over, in and around one of Martin's ear's, and the thing occasionally beeped at an annoyingly high pitch.

"Right now everything is kind of healthy," said Joseph of Martin's health, as determined by the beeps (and his extensive knowledge of how to interpret those beeps). "But the lungs definitely make more noise. The liver is healthy.

Stomach is good. Beep! Ah, the kidney has something, so you need to cut down on salty foods."

Drew winced at the sound, and shook his head. "The version we have makes these pops and clicks like bacon frying," he said. "It sort of goes from being rhythmic to being tonal. The clicks are so constant it has tonal qualities, and the higher the pitch the more conductive it is. And I sample that and build up a song."

The duo pride themselves on bringing blatant homoeroticism into their act, and the Acupuncture Point Detector helps them do it. On national television, they've been captured by cameras indulging in blatantly homoerotic music making, as Drew sensuously runs the device over Martin's skin, lovingly producing the kinds of beeps and groans that distinguish their songs.

"We do it macro," said Martin, making a gesture with his thumb and forefinger. "It only shows this much of my skin at a time."

In the album liner notes, *A Chance to Cut* presents their technique more dryly: the song *ur tchun tan tse qi* is "composed entirely from sounds generated while measuring the galvanic response of Martin's skin to a constant flow of electricity. Changes in pitch are produced as the detector pin moves closer to acupuncture points."

This is just the sort of technogeeek speak much appreciated by New Music enthusiasts. Dry and to the point.

For those not attuned to the niceties of electronic music in the 21st century, keep in mind that melody is out, rhythm and tonalities and textures are in. When you buy a Matmos album, or go to their show, you're not expecting violins; you're expecting all manner of weird devices employed in ways that have nothing to do with their originally intended uses.

Apart from the Acupuncture Point Detector, the boys gather sounds from actual liposuction surgery, refractive eye surgery, and plastic surgeries (rhinoplasty, endoscopic forehead lift and chin implant, all performed in California); a hearing test booth; pieces of human skull, goat spine, connective tissue, and artificial teeth; and the plucked and bowed cage of their late pet rat Felix.

As they confess on their website (www.brainwashed.com/matmos), presenting such eccentric music live on-stage presents extraordinary challenges. They have "survived on-stage computer malfunction and recalcitrant helium tanks" in locations as diverse as Paris, London, New York, Stuttgart, Lausanne, and Frankfurt. Their sound effects alone do not make a song; the success they enjoy comes from a strong sense of musicality mixed in with a desire to channel distortion in interesting directions. It's their technical skill — sampling, sequencing, mixing, editing — mixed with their keen music sense and a smattering of guitar and keyboard effects that keeps their sound sharp and distinct, if not for the masses, at least for all those unemployed computer geeks searching for inspiration. ▼

Roberto Friedman and "Out There" will return next week.

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MUSIC

Struggling to take flight

Roberto Abbado conducts the San Francisco Symphony

By Philip Campbell

Guest conductor Roberto Abbado has recently finished another fortnight on the podium at Davies Hall. His visits to the San Francisco Symphony are taking on a regularity that not only validate his considerable skills but also confirm some nagging doubts.

As with his last two-week stint in 1999, Abbado demonstrated his taste for mildly offbeat repertoire and an only sporadic ability to ignite his players.

A trim and handsome stage presence with clear and compact gestures distinguish the Italian conductor, who comes from a worthy musical family. His fa-

The jury included composers Luciano Berio and Elliot Carter and famous pianists Maurizio Pollini and Charles Rosen.

Cascioli gave an accurate and cogent interpretation of Beethoven's elegant concerto, but there was little urgency in his account and the results were peculiarly bland. At least, the young performer is wisely exploring the foothills before he attempts the peaks of the piano repertoire.

Good humor

Abbado opened the concert with the late Alfred Schnittke's (*Kein Sommernachtstraum* (Not A Midsummer Night's Dream)). The composer managed to write prolifically despite a middle age that brought crip-

pling strokes and an early death in 1998. This little piece, his most often performed orchestral work, displays his rather ferocious wit.

Nothing less than a deconstruction of 18th century musical style the score often shows the irreverence of a drunk in church. Starting rather prettily with a chamber treatment of a catchy minuet, it isn't long before the whole orchestra gets a good whack at pulling and pushing the tune apart. Ending as it began with dainty aplomb (*Kein Sommernachtstraum* manages to say a lot in ten-minutes. It is also very funny, bordering on slapstick.

Abbado and the musicians showed their pleasure throughout with broad smiles and the good humor proved infectious, despite some early groans when the music first turned dissonant. This was the conductor shown fully in synch with his orchestra.

Actually, everyone was working together again during the

second half of the concert. If the results were less than satisfying we could blame the composer this time.

Rachmaninoff's *Third Symphony* came off as a pitiful attempt to recreate the allure of the altogether better *Second Symphony*. Straining at those once irresistible melodies and dramatic effects the disjointed score sounds like nothing less than the *Second* with the air let out of its tires.

The conductor led a controlled performance and the musicians played superbly, but nothing could make much more of the work than a study in brilliant orchestration. Was it Abbado's misguided judgement to attempt this infrequently performed work as something of a change of pace?

The concerts of the previous week gave a better view of Abbado's strengths (and weaknesses too). The guest soloist was certainly more impressive.

did, Graham really should have been allowed an encore for she turned out to be the whole show. The brief curtain raiser was Ravel's *Une Barque sur l'océan*, an orchestrated version of the piano piece. This was one little boat on the ocean in for a very woozy voyage. Abbado let the orchestra practically capsize it with grotesquely overstated sonorities.

The second half of the program was also disappointing. Looking forward with great anticipation to hearing the rarely performed *Pelleas und Melisande* by Arnold Schoenberg, may have raised some unfairly high expectations. Still, a big passionate score like this, with its almost unbearable sense of yearning, deserves more dramatic thrust than Abbado seemed willing or able to give.

The orchestra could not be faulted — their playing was clearly obedient to the conductor's interpretation. Possibly, he didn't want to go over the top with music of such heated melodrama, but his shaping of Schoenberg's long aching arc turned out to be more like a concerto for orchestra than the dark tale of mysterious star-crossed lovers. Abbado may have been trying to chart a clear course through the, admittedly, rather dense orchestration, but he missed the power of the enigma. ▼

As with his last two-week stint in 1999, Abbado demonstrated his taste for mildly offbeat repertoire and an only sporadic ability to ignite his players.

ther, Marcello, is a composer and concert pianist who was a former director of the Milan Conservatory. His renowned uncle Claudio is the Artistic Director of the Berlin Philharmonic. Why Roberto's performances so often, stubbornly, refuse to take flight is perplexing.

In all fairness, Abbado the younger is highly energetic, never less than capable and seems to know how to interest an audience — even when the music itself is less than scintillating or the performance is unimpassioned.

A good example of an unexpected performance that still managed to thrill the crowd was young Italian pianist Gianluca Cascioli's sturdy traversal of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 last week.

At twenty-two, Cascioli was making his SFS debut after a big career launching in 1994 when he won the Umberto Micheli International Piano Competition.

plunging strokes and an early death in 1998. This little piece, his most often performed orchestral work, displays his rather ferocious wit.

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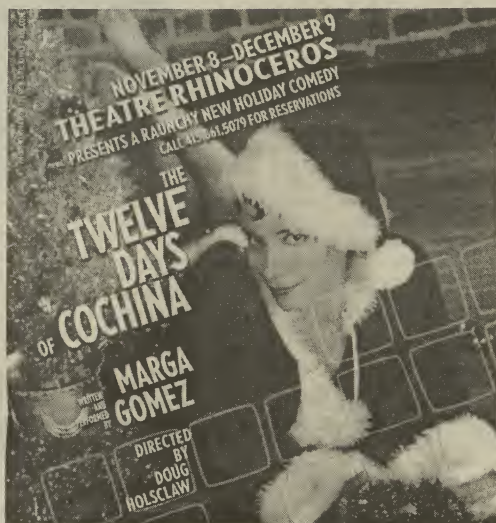
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Mezzo-soprano Susan Graham

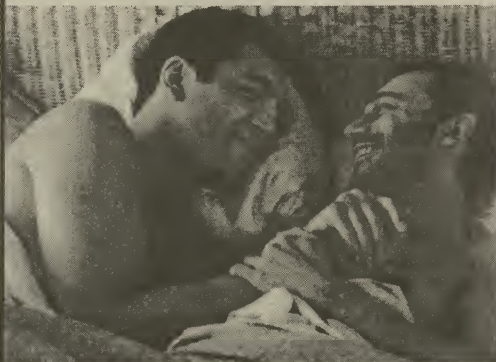
Mezzo-soprano Susan Graham has the perfect voice for a sensual piece like Ernest Chausson's *Poème de l'amour et de la mer*, Opus 19. Almost, but not quite, a cantata, the dreamy work is something like the last gasp of French romanticism with a wonderfully languid impressionism hovering about.

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The Sony disc features three works written expressly for the soloists. Singing in French to texts inexplicably omitted, Dawn Upshaw offers the *Château de L'âme* cycle of five love songs to ancient Hindu and Egyptian texts; three are drawn from spells for love and healing. Upshaw is fantastic, her characteristic freshness and gorgeous vibrato providing contrast to the otherworldly nature of these songs. The opening *Graal Théâtre*, written for violinist Gidon Kremer, contains eerie moments of darkness and horror that seem disturbingly appropriate for these times. And *Amers*, for cellist Anssi Karttunen and accompaniment, was written with the composer imagining, in her own words, "the cello being a kind of boat moving in different directions in this sea of sound of electronics and ensemble."

Naïve, distributed by Harmo-

nia Mundi, offers a two-disc set. The CD contains four gripping electronic works, variously featuring for the soprano, cellist and flutist soloists who contributed to their first performances. Thankfully, the vocal work *Lohn*, written for Dawn Upshaw, comes complete with translations. Most compelling is the *Six Japanese Gardens* cycle for percussion and electronics, which realistically conveys the composer's "series of impressions" experienced while seeing sacred gardens in Kyoto. The bonus Macintosh/PC-readable CD-ROM offers a deeper understanding of Saariaho's work via discussions with instrumental soloists and musicologists, an interactive music game composed specially for the disc, and an accessible analysis of the Sony disc's *Amers*.

This is great music which unites ancient mystery and ritual with a thoroughly modern acoustic landscape. ▼

Musical therapy

'Lady in the Dark' at Marin Theatre Company

by Richard Dodds

Two years before *Oklahoma!* would create its musical-theater revolution, *Lady in the Dark* launched a much more aggressive rebellion that would take 30 years to realize. Take a good look at *Lady in the Dark* and you can see the seeds of musicals like *Follies*, *Dreamgirls*, and even *Rent*.

But it isn't easy to get any look at *Lady in the Dark* at all. Despite its critical and commercial success, and its enduring high-tone reputation, the 1941 musical seldom shows up on theater schedules. However Marin Theatre Company has an eye for such attractions, and in recent years has undertaken *Pal Joey* and *As Thousands Cheer*. *Lady in the Dark* is its most successful venture yet into these infrequently navigated musical waters.

This is challenging material — a combination of earnest psychological mystery, elaborate fantasy, and traditional musical-comedy conventions — and it is realized to a rewarding degree in director Lee Sankowich's production. It may not be as lavish as the material suggests, and there are one or two weak links in the cast, but the overall experience leads you smartly into the world of *Lady in the Dark*.

On the couch

The musical was born from Moss Hart's personal experiences in psychoanalysis. The writer who so successfully made people laugh with such comedies as *You Can't Take It With You* and *The Man*



Livia Genise, Patrick Leveque, and Julie James in Marin Theatre Company's *Lady In The Dark*

Who Came to Dinner, was wracked with self-doubts and depressions. He found some solace in his time on the couch, and *Lady in the Dark* gave him the chance to share the experience.

Psychiatry is often regarded with amusement, if not hostility, in popular entertainment, but the profession is treated with dignity in Hart's libretto. And if the psychological mystery that the doctor unravels is necessarily simplified

to fit into a two-act musical (and into skeptical mid-century views of strong women), it is handled with intelligence and dignity.

The patient is Liza Elliott, the no-nonsense editor of a successful fashion magazine whose comfortable relationship with a mar-

ried man requires just the right amount of commitment. But she feels herself unraveling, with mounting dread afflicting her daylight hours and elaborate dreams disturbing her slumber. Those dreams become the main source of the classy musical numbers created by Ira Gershwin and Kurt Weill (and busily choreographed here by Richard Gibbs).

Marsha Mercant leads the cast with strength and skill as Liza Elliott. The men in her life are played by the stalwart Martin Lewis as her married lover, a somewhat unconvincing Patrick Leveque as a swaggering movie star, and an edgily charismatic John Flanagan as her chief nemesis at the magazine. Danny Scheie impishly takes on the Danny Kaye role, and it's hard to tell where the character's suggested gayness ends and Scheie's embellishments begin.

Even with its occasional weaknesses, Marin's production of *Lady in the Dark* is a worthy and entertaining look at the future of the American musical theater — a future seen from a 60-year-old perspective. ▼

Lady in the Dark will run at Marin Theatre Company through Dec. 2. Tickets are \$20-\$40. Call 388-5208.

Old-fashioned 'Public Lives'

First Seen production sags at Venue 9

by Richard Dodds

The theater company known as First Seen is made up of a group of playwrights dedicated to seeing their own works realized on stage. While some might view these as quasi-vanity productions, one could also applaud the initiative of these starters.

But *Public Lives*, the latest First Seen production, doesn't exactly make a strong case for the generous view of the company's mission. Awkwardly staged and haltingly acted, Brad Erickson's soap opera of gay and straight families commingling grasps for higher meanings with clumsy slide projections that attempt to make parallels between the play's story and the family values debates of the 1992 presidential election.

The play ends up with a dated quality because of this, although the fundamental issues it discusses remain current. Gay adoption, deep-seated homophobia in liberals, and extended families are among the topics Erickson touches upon in what is basically a two-couple domestic drama.

Public Lives is primarily set in the home of Jeff (Markham Miller) and Brian (Robert Martinez), a gay couple with increasingly divergent views of their future. Brian sees himself changing the world through political activism, while Jeff wants to make a difference by adopting a child. Jeff and Brian get a taste of fatherhood when their straight friends Tracy (Valerie Weak) and Robert (Michael Ferris Gibson) move in with their precocious six-year-old son William (Trevor Hebbel).



Robert Martinez plays Brian in Brad Erickson's *Public Lives*.

Tracy is an actress who gave up her career to raise their son and help Robert get a Ph.D. in art history, a degree that proves not to be a guarantee of employment. Hence, their temporary lodging with their gay friends. But then Tracy gets offered an acting job by a woman (Tina D'Elia) who was once her lover, and Robert is hired to run an art gallery by a woman (Marcie Henderson) interested in more than his academic credentials. Tempers flare on all sides, while little William becomes a pawn in the four-way battle.

Erickson's dialogue has its clever and inventive moments, but mostly it's stuck in a muddy mundane. Nor is it enhanced by the stuttering naturalism of a cast that sometimes sounds like it's improvising the words or the ineffectual staging by Elaine Magree that hasn't solved the play's multi-scene structure. *Public Lives* is a play with intentions that are superior to its means. ▼

Public Lives will run at Venue 9 through Dec. 1. Tickets are \$15. Call 289-2000.

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An inner state of war

'La Guerra D'Amore' at Zellerbach Hall

Michael Wade Simpson

I felt sorry for the dancers in German choreographer Joachim Schlömer's music and movement production, "*La Guerra D'Amore*," making its American premiere at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall last Friday. The cast of 21 was left to meander, pause, and look depressed rather than dance very much. The music, Monteverdi's 17th-Century "Madrigals of Love and War," was the thing, but Schlömer's intention to embody the spirit and feeling of these ancient works added up to a couple of hours of hand-wringing. Oh, for a little foot stomping.

That being said, the early music performance was stunning. Rene Jacobs' Ensemble Concerto Vocale brought to Berkeley a 32-member group of vocalists and instrumentalists, many of whom Jacobs trained at the Swiss Institute for Early Music in Basel. Schlömer incorporated the singers on-stage and played with the boundaries between two forms, much like opera staging. However, there was no narrative being presented in this opera, just a much-repeated idea that love, basically, sucks.

In the program notes, the madrigal form was described as presenting external images that describe inner states of mind. Instead of echoing this idea through movement, Schlömer seemed to respond, instead, to the melancholy of the sounds; the music, not the lyrics. This was an inner state of war with barely an outward expression at all. We listened to some beautiful, sad music and watched a bunch of people emoting. It looked like an exercise for dancers taking Acting 1. The assignment: look sad, your lover has left you; you are walking in the park.

Lyrics in Italian spoke about burning and blazing and running for love, but what Schlömer showed was clumps of people in street clothes tip-toeing. Even the



The love was mostly ho-hum in *La Guerra D'Amore*, in which the dancers kept expression to a minimum.

fight scene in Act 2 was in slow motion, as if nothing about present-day velocity was going to be allowed. Better that everyone should have been wearing tunics and tights, doing gavottes and sarabandes, instead of barefoot in track suits and cocktail dresses. There was nothing that suggested a modern-day twist, no re-framing that would help us understand why this very old music was being theatricalized this way, now.

Schlömer danced with both Pina Bausch, the German Dance Theater pioneer, and Mark Morris, our choreographic Mr. Music, genius of bringing everything from Indian movie music to baroque operas to exuberant life. It was possible to see the influence of both in the work, but to his credit, Schlömer added his own edge to things. Every so often, when there was dancing, things would start to get loony and out-of-control, like passion.

No great passion

I suppose Schlömer is right. Great, intense moments of love occur only occasionally in life. Mostly, it's just ho-hum. But that's not why we go to the theater. The dancers, during these interludes, were like circus lions let out into the ring. How great to see the 21 of them dashing about, coming

up with amazing unisons in the midst of wildness.

It is this near-recklessness that shows the choreographer's promise. Where Morris' ballet-based vocabulary always looks a little more controlled, Schlömer takes off into his own technique. It would be great to watch an evening of this, but in this context, with this music, the audience was out of luck.

What American choreographers agree on is that the human body has the ability to express in dramatic form the strongest possible feelings about love. Schlömer's confused attempt to mix early music with 21st Century angst shows that pure dancing, like pure love, is an old idea that may never be improved upon. ▼

Second Skin

◀ Arts cover

liaisons, and a final tragedy that removes one member of this triangle without making it easy for the remaining two to get together.

One of the lures of the film is its upfront stance in treating the details of Alberto and Diego's liaisons. So often in the past, as queer viewers we've had to content ourselves with fadeouts, drawn curtains, a nervous camera that shifts to a window or a seascape rather than present the troublesome tableau of man on man. *Second Skin* shows how far we've come from those days, and how unnecessary such subterfuge is. Alberto and Diego are pornstar sexy, and their love scenes are presented as natural and, indeed, desirable, with Diego's pleasure at falling in love palpable, and the tormented Alberto gaining a sense of peace—if only temporarily—by acting on his true desires.

Hunky straight actors playing gay men seems to have become a staple of Spanish cinema lately, and Bardem, whose charms first surfaced on the international scene in the 1992 *Jamon Jamon*, is the poster boy for this movement. (Penisspotters were well rewarded by the film's much-remarked midnight "bullfighting" scene.) As Diego, he's alternately passionate and submissive, and mostly convincing as the uncloseted gay man trying to navigate the seeming impossibility of forging a life with a tortured bisexual. The almost indecent good looks of Jordi Molla, another alumnus of *Jamon Jamon*, threaten to capsize his characterization—or at least distract the viewer into an admiring stupor—but his unabashed emotionalism

gives Alberto the gravitas necessary to convey his dilemma.

Like any self-respecting actor, Bardem hasn't hesitated to "play gay" in his career—most notably in recent days in *Before Night Falls*—though he apparently did have some trepidation about the love scenes in *Second Skin*. "In the stronger scenes, I could easily have felt a bit uncomfortable—they're pretty explicit," he said in a recent interview, "but luckily, we were amongst friends. I don't know whether I could have done this role with another actor. Between Jordi and me, there is trust and friendship." So convincing is their chemistry that one can imagine trust, friendship, and more outside the set.

Director Vera has said that *Second Skin* is autobiographical, which may account for its sense of engagement with the issues it presents. The film offers no pat answers, though. None of the characters is presented as villainous, though Alberto skirts it during a party when he's publicly dismissive of Diego. Ariadna Gil as the suffering wife manages to sidestep the role's soapier aspects, bringing a sense of entrapment and confusion to Elena. Cecilia Roth (memorable in Almodovar's *All About My Mother*) also registers as Diego's boss, Eva, a strong, sexy woman whose unrequited love for Diego filigrades the film.

The one area where *Second Skin* suffers is in its syrupy score, which uses swirling violins to relentlessly underscore the notion of the characters' drift. Such melodramatics are irritating and unnecessary in a film that works hard to avoid the soap opera inherent in the story. ▼

Second Skin opens Friday at the Lumiere and Shattuck Cinemas.

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MUSIC

'Felt Mountain' high



Allison Goldfrapp's vocals and whistles, and Will Gregory's keyboards and strings, produce the kind of haunting, ethereal sounds associated with Enya and Björk. Goldfrapp's latest album, *Felt Mountain*, inspired by an imaginary mountain made out of felt, was recorded in "a grotty, little, smelly bungalow in the Wiltshire countryside," says Gregory, and now is gaining a huge international following. These hot new artists appear with Elbow and DJ Aaron Axelson at Bimbo's (Columbus at Chestnut) on Thursday, November 29. Tickets are \$15. Call 474-0365.



Joan Crawford's "Letty Lynton" dress, a starched organdy number.

We wore clothes, then!

Lavish gowns by Adrian in new book

by Tavo Amador

Were Classic Hollywood's women stars more beautiful, more innately glamorous than today's divas? Probably not, but they seem so. Why? One reason: The studios who had them under contract worked continuously to enhance their images, ensuring that they looked their best, both on and off camera. Travis Banton at Paramount designed stunning ensembles for Marlene Dietrich, Carole Lombard, and Claudette Colbert. Orry-Kelly did the same for Bette Davis at Warners. Later, Edith Head, Irene, Jean Louis, and Givenchy produced sumptuous gowns for Elizabeth Taylor, Rita Hayworth, and Audrey Hepburn, among others. But the most famous and influential designer of all was Adrian, who dressed MGM's three reigning queens: Joan Crawford, Norma Shearer, and Greta Garbo. He gets long-overdue recognition in Howard Gutner's *Gowns by Adrian, The MGM Years, 1928-1941* (Abrams, \$39.95).



Designer Gilbert Adrian

Gossip columnist Hedda Hopper wrote that the opening of a Garbo, Crawford, or Shearer film in the '30s had the same impact on women that Paris fashion shows had decades later. Gutner's sumptuous collection of photographs and insightful text proves Hopper's assertion.

Adrian August Greenburg (1903-1959) was born in Connecticut. His mother was a graphic designer and successful milliner, his father a furrier. In 1921, he enrolled at New York's Parsons School of Design, but he found the curriculum boring; his grades suffered. He transferred to the school's Paris branch. Before sailing for the City of Light, he spent three months working in summer stock, "surrounded by paint, sewing machines, dye pots, and fabric." Paris did nothing for his grades, but it gave him confidence. Irving Berlin admired his sketches and contracted him for his *Music Box Revue* of 1921. He did special artwork for the show, but not the clothes. For the 1923 revue, however, Adrian designed the costumes.

Natacha Rambova signed him to create some outfits for *A Saint-Devil* (1924) starring her husband, silent-screen idol Rudolph Valentino. Once in Hollywood, Adrian worked at Paramount, designing clothes for Valentino's *The Hooded Falcon* and *Cobra* (1925). In 1928, Irving Thalberg hired him, at \$500 a week, to replace Erte as MGM's Head of



Exquisite embroidery: Norma Shearer decked out as Marie Antoinette.

Wardrobe.

Adrian believed that clothes had to be integral to the story. He obtained summaries of the film's scenes and the actress's character, then sketched a costume. A muslin version of the design was prepared and fitted on the star. Adjustments to hide figure flaws and accentuate attractive attributes were made to this model before the final dress was created. (Stars followed this practice for personal appearances as well. Today, designers send dresses to actresses to wear at prestigious events, like the Oscars, but don't fit gowns specifically for their figures.)

His most famous dress was created for Crawford's *Letty Lynton* (1932). Her figure posed challenges: in addition to the famous broad shoulders, she was very long-waisted. Her legs were beautiful, but short. He cut her dresses high on the waist, to give the illusion of longer legs, and accentuated her shoulders, thereby slimming her hips. The *Letty Lynton* dress was of starched white organdy chiffon and had wide, extravagantly ruffled sleeves. It created a sensation, eventually selling 500,000 copies. (The film itself had to be withdrawn from circulation because of a copyright suit and has not been seen since 1932.)

Crawford's shopgirl wardrobes were one thing, but if she was playing someone higher up on the social ladder, Adrian's designs reflected that, such as the sensational lamé number for *The Bride Wore Red* (1937). His clothes for Shearer's chic, liberated women or Garbo's doomed heroines are equally impressive, revealing the character each was playing. For Shearer's *Riptide*, he introduced a slit skirt that showed she was "a woman of fashion... just a little bit

reckless." Similarly, his designs for Garbo's *The Painted Veil* (1934) capture a woman who finds having a "good" husband boring. Like Crawford, both had figure "flaws." Shearer was tiny and did not have good legs. Garbo was tall, always an advantage, but had a meager bust. In Adrian's creations, they, like Crawford, look perfect.

Adrian's period costumes remain breathtaking. It's doubtful the real Marie Antoinette had gowns as magnificent as those worn by Shearer in her 1936 portrayal of the doomed French queen. Garbo's "Empress Eugénie" hat, created for *Romance* (1930), became a staple for fashionable women throughout the decade. Other sections deal with his costumes for Jean Harlow in *Dinner at Eight* (1933) and Katherine Hepburn in *The Philadelphia Story* (1940), as well as extravaganzas like *The Great Ziegfeld* (1936), with its wealth of showgirl drags.

Gutner details Adrian's approach to his work, his research, his creative genius, and his long-lasting influence — Saks Fifth Avenue used a picture of Crawford wearing one of his suits while promoting Armani's 1996 creations. Unfortunately, Gutner is nearly silent about the designer's personal life, saying he married actress Janet Gaynor without mentioning that she was bisexual and Adrian gay.

This lavishly photographed volume is a record of his unequalled contribution to Hollywood's Golden Age. It's a perfect gift for stylish dressers on your holiday list, for budding designers, or anyone interested in the art of illusion. Clothes may not make a man, but, thankfully, they can make a woman. ▼

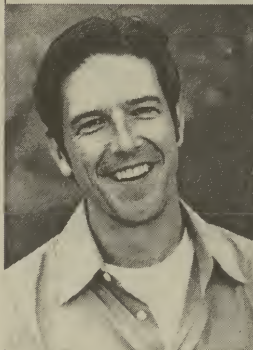
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MUSIC

Voluntary simplicity

Simple man Jim Brickman

by Gregg Shapiro

All sorts of movies, television shows and CDs have been pulled from release because of problems regarding subject matter in light of September 11. Jim Brickman's *Simple Things* (Windham Hill/BMG), released in late September, sounds like an antidote for the times. Its piano solo tracks act as a balm for our wounded spirits. The title track, co-written by Beth Nielsen Chapman and sung by Rebecca Lynn Howard, could potentially become an anthem of comfort, as people seek out a way to heal their hearts and heads.

Gregg Shapiro: After 1994's *No Words* disc, you began to include vocalists on your albums. Why?

Jim Brickman: I've always been a songwriter first. A lot of people think because I play the piano that I'm just a pianist, but I've always been a songwriter who plays the piano more than a pianist who writes songs. It seems like a strange distinction, but because of my background in jingles and advertising, I was used to writing words and music, and always had this secret desire to write hit songs for other people — never dreaming that the hit songs would be sung by other people on my al-

bums.

You've worked with Carly Simon, Olivia Newton-John and Donny Osmond. I always think of those three as '70s icons. Do you have a special affinity for the artists of that period?

Yes, I really do. I think that when you grow up in an era and you want to become a musician there are always people in your world that you admire. Because of that, I sort of have criteria for the collaborations that I do. Either it's people that I really admire and always have wanted to work with, or it's newcomers that my audience may not have heard of who I think are really talented and should be heard. It's kind of both — the icons and the people just starting out.

You co-wrote "Simple Things" with Beth Nielsen Chapman. What was it like to work with her?

There are certain people in this world you meet and you know are supposed to be doing what they're doing. The minute I came up with the idea for "Simple Things," she was the first person that I wanted to write with. She had lost her husband a few years ago. She was coming out of her last day of chemotherapy for

breast cancer when we wrote the song. She hadn't written in seven months. She said, "What a great song to write for my song after chemo, because it's saying, Look at the world around you. Look at what this is, and what we all have."

When she wrote, "After all the clouds go by/The simple things remain," it's not cliché, it's poignant and beautiful. *Simple Things* is so apropos right now. It's what I was trying to say in the first place, which is, Let's get our priorities back together again. I was at the bank the other day, and I was doing a transaction with a teller, and the guy in front of me was talking on his cell phone. Didn't even exchange conversation with the teller. "Hi. How are you?" Nothing.

I was going through this time in my life where my whole life was chaotic. I was constantly on my cell phone, checking my e-mail. I was attached to the e-world. I know everybody is, to a certain extent. But I had to start making rules for myself, like turning off the cell phone when having lunch with someone. Nothing is that important, it's just not. ▼

Jim Brickman will be performing two shows at the Palace of Fine Arts Nov. 24, 8 p.m. Tickets (\$40): 392-4400.



Piano-playing songwriter Jim Brickman is casual about success.

Out, proud, out loud

Le Tigre, Thalia Zedek, and others

by Gregg Shapiro

One of the gayest musical groups in history (or at least of the late '70s), the Village People are being celebrated again with *The Best of Village People: The Millennium Collection* (Mercury). Not as thorough a collection as the 1994 *The Best of Village People*, this 11-track compilation does have the essentials ("Go West," "Macho Man," "San Francisco," "In the Navy," and the much-maligned "Y.M.C.A."), and will probably be more appealing to heteros than homos.

These days, the coolest queers are dancing to Le Tigre and their new disc *Feminist Sweepstakes* (Mr. Lady). It's the second full-length disc by this all-female trio, and it packs a percussive punch and a feminist message to boot. Living up to the promise of both their 1999 self-titled debut disc and 2000 *From the Desk of Mr. Lady* EP, *Feminist Sweepstakes* delivers the beats and gives you something to think about at the same time. "For the ladies and the fags, yeah! We're the band with the rollerskate jams," they sing on the opening track "Le Tigre Theme," and even a stick-in-the-mud like me can't help but oblige them with a dance. "F.Y.R." ("fifty years of ridicule") is a feminist anthem for the 21st century, and "Dyke March 2001" isn't far behind. Other winning cuts include "Tres Bien," the spoken-word rap of "Well Well Well," and the work song "TGIF." Chris Stamey (formerly of The dBs) once again produced.



Le Tigre: JD Samson, Johanna Fateman, and Kathleen Hanna

Lesbian club and circuit DJs are not as rare as they once were. Southern belle Lydia Prim gives her contemporaries Tracy Young and Susan Morabito a run for their money on her mix disc *Global Groove: Keep On Movin'* (Centaur). Prim begins with a dynamic dose of retro-disc tunes such as Stevie Wonder's "All I Do" by Cleptomaniacs, "I Can Cast a Spell" (which samples heavily from "I'm Every Woman") by Disco Tex presents Cloudburst, and "My Feeling" by Junior Jack. By the time we get to the Frankie Knuckles title track, Prim has switched gears and moved the dance-floor in a house music direction, on this outstanding compilation that is an accurate representation of her DJ work. The

ironically patriotic CD cover, featuring Global Groove Boy Jose posing in a sailor hat in front of an American flag, probably won't be lost on many at this time in our history.

Winters in Berlin

Back in the early '80s, I liked the band Berlin Airlift (especially their 1982 eponymous album), but I didn't know that lead singer Rick Berlin was gay. Berlin's latest musical group is The Shelley Winters Project, and their five-song self-titled EP left me wanting more. The gorgeous opening track "Don't Know What I'd Do," the delightful pop of "Always in Love," and the funky wah-wah disco of "Blood" only made me

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Science meets art

Catherine Wagner's 'Cross Sections' at the San Jose Museum of Art



Catherine Wagner's imagery slices objects for the sake of art.

by Will Shank

The marriage of art and science often results in strange bed-fellows, but the work of Catherine Wagner seems to bridge that gap with grace, beauty and apparent ease. The San Francisco photographer's most recent work is on display at the San Jose Museum of Art through January 20, 2002.

The result of a Visual Arts Fellowship from the SJMA, the black and white photographs installed in the museum are the fruits of Wagner's labors with Stanford and Israeli scientists who afforded her access to their labs. This work is the logical extension of her earlier photographs of schools, building sites, and homes, all of them unpopulated, but focused on the "foundations" of human activity. You may recall her work with the "skeleton" of the Moscone Center while it was under construction.

In *Cross-Sections*, Wagner delves deeper into the foundations of life by peering into the molecular level of living, or formerly living, things. With the aid of medical research tools like the MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) and the SEM (Scanning Electron Microscope), Wagner has taken humble objects like onions, green beans, corn, a shark's tooth, a sea urchin's spine, and exposed them to analytical tools that make

them glow with a beautiful white-on-black resonance. By multiplying the images, Wagner creates haunting images of another, unseen world which is in fact right beneath our noses. On the most fundamental level of foundations of life, we observe a cell dividing itself like a choreographed ballet in white-on-black. It is a still photograph, but one cannot help but anticipate the next step.

The culmination of this work is a stunning arc of back-lit "duratrans" images (think Muni bus stop posters). "Pomegranate Wall" takes a symbolically laden object, and multiplies it hundreds of times onto a surface that is more like architecture than photograph. The pomegranate in the history of art has been a symbol of fertility and, because of its hidden, brightly colored seeds, a representation of the faithful in a house of worship. There is a chute-like quality to the dark room that holds "Pomegranate Wall," and a mesmerizing effect of a formally beautiful shape magnified and multiplied over and over again.

The only weakness of the "Pomegranate Wall" is the direction from which the viewer approaches it in the current gallery setting. Because you come upon it laterally, you miss out on the initial distant tantalizing effect that draws you closer to examine

the small images that make up the abstract pattern.

Besides Wagner, credit curator Glen Helfand and designer Martin Venetsky for the success of this installation.

Added attractions

While at the SJMA, check out also the beautiful mid-career survey of the works of East Bay artist Deborah Oropallo. "How-To: The Paintings of Deborah Oropallo" presents an intelligent overview of her influential work, which has evolved from more traditional painting structures into the current mixed media work built upon large-scale digital prints. Her toy train tracks and other everyday objects, examined for their aesthetic power, will be familiar to you. The exhibit runs through February 10. Also at San Jose is "Blind Vision: Video and the Limits of Perception," a knockout. Other artists working with MRI's and x-radiography echo Wagner's fascination with the possibilities of industrial tools of examination to create unique works of art. ▼

Catherine Wagner's "Cross Sections" shows at the San Jose Museum of Art, 110 South Market St., San Jose. Call (408) 271-6840 or surf www.sjmusart.org

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From Berlin with love: The Shelley Winters Project

Out loud

◀ previous page

wish that there was more where this came from.

Thalia Zedek's 20-year-plus musical career most recently found her in the critically acclaimed band Come. *Been Here and Gone* (Mata-dor), Zedek's first solo album is a far cry from her work with Come. Working with some of her Come bandmates including Chris Brokaw, Zedek has crafted an album that has more in common with recent Marianne Faithfull than any of her own previous incarnations. Whether she's covering Leonard Cohen ("Dance Me to the End of Love") or Luiz Bonfá ("Manha de Carnaval"), or singing one of her own compositions ("Excommunications (Everybody Knows), and the instrumental "10th Lament"), Zedek shows us another musical side of herself, one that's probably been here all along.

Out male R&B singers are few and far between. That's why Rufus Proffit, who sounds like the love child of Al Green and Luther Vandross, should be embraced. Proffit wrote all of the lyrics for the songs on his album, *Tell Me* (Flashflood). The hot and fresh baker's dozen tunes are an amalgamation of uplifting dance-friendly tracks such as "Luckiest Survivor," "Can't Confess 2 Nothing," "Plaything," and "What Makes

Your Body Move?" Steamy soul numbers include "Melting (Inside of You)" and "Think Quick," both of which recall the genre's godfathers Marvin Gaye and Donny Hathaway.

Live in Philadelphia (Rykodisc) by Voices on the Verge may have been recorded in the City of Brotherly Love, but it still has a connection to the "hub of the universe," since 3/4 of the quartet (Jess Klein, Beth Amsel, and openly queer Erin McKeown) are based in Massachusetts. Inspired by the sisterhood of the stage that was the Suffragette Sessions, McKeown, Klein, Amsel and Rose Polenzani first performed onstage together at the Iron Horse in Northampton, Mass, singing each other's songs. Standouts include Polenzani's "Heaven Release Us," "Thom II," McKeown's "Didn't They" and "Softly Moses," and Klein's "Little White Dove."

SONIA's Live at the Down Home (Winthrop) is political and personal, universal and unique. We know SONIA's songs from her *Disappear Fear* and solo albums, and hearing them on this live recording, where the supportive audience at The Down Home in Johnson City, Tennessee made her feel appreciated and loved, is almost like being there. This concert disc gives us new reason to love tunes like "Fallin'" "Washington Work Song," and "Sink the Censorship." ▼

TELEVISION

Bombs away

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Be careful what you wish for." That axiom should be the motto of the Bush Administration, given recent events. Despite reiterations that "the war on terrorism will be long," the Northern Alliance — with a few billion in bombs from the U.S. and Britain — has captured Kabul and other key cities in Afghanistan. According to experts, whomever holds Kabul holds the nation.

Though televised worldwide, the fall of Kabul had none of the horrifying mayhem of the fall of Saigon or even the minor chaos of the fall of Belgrade last year. The takeover was almost imperceptible — until men began racing to barber shops to shave off the beards that were required by law under the Taliban and a few brave women shed their burkas, revealing what had not been seen in over five years in Kabul — women's faces.

The scenes from Kabul were wholly celebratory — laughter and music and playfulness in the streets, things that had been banned for years. The population seemed exultant while a few hundred miles away in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, Muslim protesters were flooding the streets in renewed death to America rallies, calling for support of Osama bin Laden as the U.S. continued bombing areas still held by Taliban forces in Afghanistan.

For now the Taliban is down — including bin Laden's right-hand man, Mohammed Atef, said to have been killed in the fight for control of Kabul — but, experts agree, probably not out. The U.S. now has a new ally and a new problem: the Northern Alliance. The Bush plan, such as it was, never included putting the Northern Alliance in control of Afghanistan. Our new "friends" are only marginally less fascistic than their predecessors, and our other "friend," Pakistan, strongly objects to the narrow ethnic make-up of the Northern Alliance, which does not include the majority population of the region.

What now? The Sunday talking heads fests were rife with discourse on what the Bush team should have done and what they still can do. But what is, is. For now the Northern Alliance has the reins and given the number of years they have striven for them, it's difficult to imagine why they would relinquish them and for what reason.

In other disasters . . .

Remember anthrax? The bio-threat that formed the surfeit of October news has dropped off the TV map. On November 17, CNN and the Saturday morning shows mentioned in passing that another anthrax letter, this one addressed to liberal Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vermont), had been found. The letter was opened under controlled circumstances, but came from the same New Jersey routing, with the same printing as the others, and was dated October 9 — significantly later than the other anthrax letters. Which means the threat is still out there, even if the media has determined it's no longer "big story." (We did enjoy *Saturday Night Live* reviving the Blues Brothers — Dan Ackroyd and John Goodman — and having them sing the old Sixties hit, "The Letter," in tribute

to postal workers who have been hardest hit by bioterrorism.)

No news still on what caused the crash of United Airlines flight 537 — was it birds, clear air turbulence, or an explosion? The NTSB is keeping mum for now.

TV news coverage of the crash was disturbing. One wonders if our terrorism fears have inured us to common human decency. Neither local New York nor national TV coverage ever acknowledged the loss of human life — 265 people, nearly all of Dominican descent. (In our quest to return to normalcy, have we returned to racism? People of color not meriting coverage, even in a tragedy?)

Only Mayor Rudy Giuliani made reference to the loss of life. Reportage focused on the impact of the crash without ever acknowledging its victims. One would have thought from all the news that the tragedy lay in the renewed fear of flying the crash engendered and further financial damage to the airline industry at peak holiday travel season. Perhaps those things warrant discussion, but not mere minutes after the crash. People died, lives were shattered. September 11 was not only America's tragedy, and a failing economy, while devastating, isn't death. Can we get a little perspective? The tragedy lies not in whether or not the crash will make people fear flying, but in lives lost.

The only talk show still concerned with these issues, apparently, is *Politically Incorrect*, on which we have seen more Muslim intellectuals and politicians than on *Nightline* or *Al-Jazeera*. Bill Maher is to be commended for eschewing jokes in favor of actual discourse, and for not limiting the commentary. Last week the ever-insightful Arianna Huffington called for a moratorium on buying jewelry, stating that given the lives lost to conflict, diamonds and the like weren't worth it. She sported cubic zirconia and looked as fabulous as ever. Maher is touting hybrid cars (a strange mix of environmentalist and conservative, he's bought one and continually argues Americans need to wean themselves off oil and SUVs). For conservatives, Maher and Huffington sound more and more like the voices of reason. Perhaps we should listen?

Puttin' on the Putin

Say what you will about Barbara Walters, she gives good interview. Her talk with Russia's Prime Minister, Vladimir Putin, reminded 20/20 viewers that she's a news-woman, first and foremost. (Walters had also interviewed Boris Yeltsin, Putin's predecessor.) Putin discussed his admiration for Bush (scary) and fears of bioterrorism (scarier), though he denied rumors that Black Market plutonium was floating out of Russia and into the hands of terrorists. When asked by Walters if he would send troops to Afghanistan, he said no, that it would be like the U.S. returning troops to Vietnam.

Walters asked Putin to try out his newly acquired English (he'd done the interview in Russian). When he spoke it was amazing — the first Russian leader to learn English, and his is remarkably flawless. How disturbing is it that

foreign heads of state speak better English than Bush?

Deft maneuvers

After September 11, the producers of *The West Wing* worried that the show couldn't possibly live up to the real-life drama playing out nationally and internationally. It's a tribute to the show's brilliance (rewarded with eight Emmys, including best drama series and best supporting actor nods to Allison Janney and Bradley Whit-

ford, though one hopes next year Rob Lowe will have earned enough Hollywood forgiveness for past misdeeds to garner the Emmy his portrayal of Sam Seaborn so deserves) that it indeed has continued to rivet atten-

tion. In fact the only wrong note the show has sounded since September 11 was the Terrorism 101 civics lesson episode, which while useful viewing for students and those who don't watch the fast-paced, smartly written *WW* on a regular basis, was preachy for the devotee. Nevertheless recent episodes, which have included other terroristic avenues, have been handled deftly, maintaining the kind of political normalcy the Bush White House yearns for: addressing issues of terrorism and gun control, political misconduct and nuclear threat. And always with strong writing and stronger acting.

If *WW* doesn't move you to tears each episode, perhaps you just don't get it and should tune in the competition — *The Drew Carey Show* and *Spin City*.

Survivor Geographic

Another show that seems to

only get better is, surprisingly, *Survivor*. The current group of contestants is terrific — the loathsome slackers of Sambura and the hard working, truly connected group on Boran give viewers people to root for (unfortunately the queen of the group, Brandon, is on the Sambura team). Plus the scenes from Africa are amazing. This round doubles as a *National Geographic* special and a statement about the dire need for wildlife conservation and preservation. Viewers see close up how harsh the continent is and how difficult it is to maintain life there. It should act as a subliminal wake-up call to Americans about saving the planet.

Saving *The Ellen Show* might be as difficult as saving the last few hundred elephants, tigers and rhinoceroses left in the world. The sit-com is actually losing ratings since Ellen's strong but low-key

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A pot of gold for charity

SMMILE funds bring smiles and cheer

by Mister Marcus

It was as if a giant rainbow had appeared among us, with a bucket of gold bullion at its base. That's how brightly Leather Pride shined last Wednesday night, November 14 when SMMILE distributed a whopping total of \$293,000 to almost a dozen of their chosen beneficiaries. The funds were proceeds from both the Dore Alley Fair in July and the Folsom Street Fair in September.

(The total amount does not include proceeds from sales of the 2002 SOMA Bare Chest Calendar, which are still selling like beef-cakes. Do you have one yet? Either for yourself or for your pals back home in the provinces?)

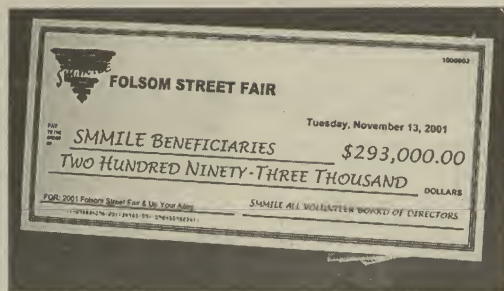
Various amounts were doled out to the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Frameline, AIDS Emergency Fund, Positive Resource Center, Visual Aid, AIDS Legal Referral Panel, the UCSF AIDS Health Project, Immune Enhancement Project, Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center and LYRIC. Big smiles and gracious thank you's were evident as SMMILE President Bob Goldfarb presented the checks.

Know that the 500 or so volunteers and the Board of Directors of SMMILE made sure that the 300,000-plus attendees of Folsom, and some 12,000-plus at Dore Alley, had a great time. Both street fairs saw record attendance, and the Folsom Street Fair can still boast that it is the world's biggest leather event. The Folsom Street Fair's reputation has caused the leather community of New York City to stage Folsom Street East (now in its 6th year), and last week it was announced that Fort Lauderdale will stage Folsom Street South in late March 2002.

It's good to see, once again, that San Francisco's leather community provides the impetus to leather people everywhere to raise funds for those less fortunate. Let's roll!

Holiday leather in Canada & DC

The eyes of the leather world are on Toronto and Washington, DC. This weekend, the DC-Eagle celebrates its 30th anniversary with a 4-day extravaganza includ-



This check represents the total amount dispensed to beneficiaries by SMMILE, the folks who bring you the Folsom Street and Dore Alley Fairs. A lot of people were happy to receive their share of the total.

ing a Blackout Night on Thursday, VIP dinner on Friday, issuing a 30th anniversary pin, and the Mr. DC Eagle Leather Contest on Saturday night when Darrell Moyers steps aside for a successor. You may recall that Darrell was just one point away from becoming International Mr. Leather 2001 as the 1st runner-up last May. It promises to be quite an event and if you're in the vicinity, be sure you get in on the party. Almost all the former Mr. DC Eagle winners will be there, including our own Paul Moffett (PO

Plus owner) who held the title at one time. Sounds like a great time and congratulations and best wishes for continued success for a leather institution.

In Toronto, MLT, Inc. (Mr. Leatherman Toronto, Inc.) stages their Toronto Leatherman 2002 contest also with a four day extravaganza culminating with choosing the man to succeed Peter Theodoropoulos for next year and that infamous Leather Victory Dance afterward.

Peter with his dazzling smile, manly stride and an all-around leather man, passes the MLT "shawl" on to one of nine worthy candidates. The Toronto event will see hordes of Americans in attendance. It is one of the best leather contest weekends on the entire circuit and Canadian hospitality is flawless

Coming your way

Locally, the weekend of December 8-11 sees a flurry of year-end fund raising with the Don Ho-Omar Moseley annual Black Leather Christmas Party on Saturday, December 8 in their noto-

rious digs at 407 Sanchez. "The Eruption Party" wants a \$20 donation (to benefit the AEF Breast Cancer Fund and Positive Resource Center) and if you want to attend this great event, you should RSVP at (415) 558-8610. This one is always well attended and a fun event.

Sunday, December 9 is the Holiday Leather Brunch at Harvey's SOMA (12th & Folsom) from Noon to 1500. This is the 5th year for this event, which benefits Positive Resource Center. They promise a "scrumptious buffet and beverages, fantastic silent auction, and super raffle drawings." Among the raffle items are a round-trip American Airlines ticket to anywhere in the U.S. and Puerto Rico, a DVD player, dinner for two at Zuni Café and you don't need to be present to win. Tickets are \$25 at both Harvey's locations.

Monday and Tuesday, December 10 & 11, the Leather Empress Donna Sachet presents the annual "Songs of the Season" variety show in the Plush Room of the York Hotel. It's a benefit for the AIDS Emergency fund, and tickets are \$35/advance or \$40 at the door. A glittering roster of talent is expected to entertain. You can RSVP by calling 650-359-8492 or email: tickets@donnasachet.com.

Both nights were sold out last year, so don't wait! It's always a hot show. The fun starts at 2000 both nights. 'Tis the Season!

Mommies & daddies

Last week, Daddy's bar celebrated their 6th anniversary with record crowds on hand on both Wednesday and Thursday with lots of door prizes, entertainment and a commemorative pin. On

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, November 21-25

DC Eagle celebrates their 30th anniversary all weekend in the nation's capital.

In Toronto, it's the Mr. Toronto Leatherman contest (see above for details).

Wednesday, November 21

Underwear Buddies at 933 Harrison. Doors open 2100-2300. Clothes check mandatory. For details call 777-HEAD.

Saturday, November 24

The San Franciscans MC revive the "Butch Brunch" from 1100 to 1400 at the Swedish American Hall (2174 Market) St. \$10 Adv or \$15/door. Food by Dennis Tyler.

The 15 Association's monthly play party at the usual venue. \$15 donation includes many amenities. Guests must arrive with you. Call 673-0452 for info.

Wednesday, November 28

Leather Buddies Night at 933 Harrison. Boots, leather, latex, uniforms only! No cologne. No sneakers! Call 777-HEAD for info.

Sunday, December 2

The Forum of SF annual Christmas Party at Harvey's SOMA (12th & Folsom) by invitation or club overlay beginning at 1800 hours.

Saturday, December 8

Cigar, dungeon & wrestling party at Castlebar. For info, call 415-970-9700.

"Eruption" party at Omar and Ho's digs in the Castro. See above for details.

Mr. Eagle NY leather contest in their new location. Vern Stewart will be the master of ceremonies. If you're in the vicinity, check it out!

Sunday, December 9

Annual Holiday Leather Brunch at Harvey's SOMA to benefit Positive Resources Center. See details above.

Locker room scoop

Matt Spencer in 'Playing Dirty'

by John F. Karr

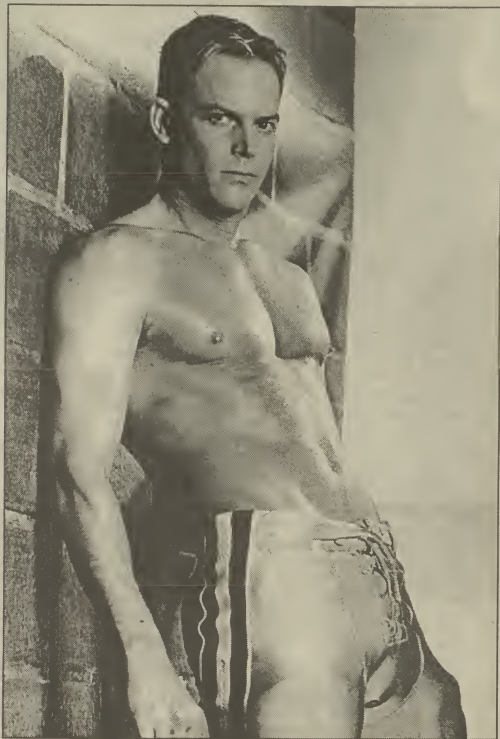
Studio 2000 is well known for the smoothness of their ride. So it's intriguing to see them add director Paul Barresi to their fold. Barresi's been a renegade in the field, first as a performer, with a famously fat dick and a sometime taste for heterosexuality, and then as a director who brought his bruiser sort of sexuality to any low budget project that would hire him on. He's known for the grit of his product — and by that I mean both a punchier content as well as rougher edges of his film craft. In *Playing Dirty*, his second movie for the Studio 2000, the match between director and production team has had the expected results: here's a slicker product that's a little surly.

It was the presence of glamorous Falcon featured player Anthony Shaw among the cast list that initially drew me to *Playing Dirty*, although cohorts Rick Hammersmith, Drew Larson and star Matt Spencer ain't exactly chopped liver. Immediately noticeable, though, was a well-known fact of porn: stars look better when Falcon films 'em. In the two Falcon outings I've seen that made me his fan, Shaw was a close stand-in for Derek Cameron. Not quite as handsome, perhaps, but with a sharper musculature, the same beautiful blond hair and piercing eyes, and, perhaps most important, that lusty ardor that read romantically: a sportfucker who was emotionally invested. Yet in *Playing Dirty*, both the character he's playing and the quality of the filming present a lesser Shaw. Harsh lighting and less knowing camera angles give an unflattering withy elongation to his nose and chin, and make his tousled locks look, well, greasy.

Everyone in the cast is similarly affected, but it doesn't spoil our enjoyment. The story, after all, is about skullduggery among some rough and tumble athletes, and calls for five o'clock shadow rather than lip-gloss. And, fortunately, the pitted look Barresi's given his players matches the sort of gritty sex he encourages them to have; Mr. Shaw, in particular, becomes his usual sleek and snarling panther once the sex begins.

Quarterback goes deep

Shaw plays the editor of a university newspaper. Under the guise of interviewing the university's star quarterback, during which he's all leering and laying on of hands, he makes a clumsy



Packaged for playing dirty: the formidable Matt Spencer

pass. It's rejected, of course; being gay is an assumption among these team members, but unlike the smarmy Shaw, they have better manners, and always ask before locking lips. Shaw's ego is wounded and he vows revenge: he'll run an article trumpeting the team's off-the-field moves play by play. It's the classic act of a homo-

phobe: defame them because you can't have them.

Shaw sends his staff photographer, Drew Larson, to spy on the team members, and what he observes is the bulk of the movie. While these scenes are well done, Larson's eavesdropping provides the inadvertent laugh. Perhaps Barresi reasoned that the spying photographer's camera flash would blow his cover. So Larson takes notes, just like I do when I watch the movie: "The coach is sniffing his jock strap and jacking off!" "Rick Hammersmith is pretending to wrestle with Dante, but it looks like fucking to me!" I wondered if Larson knows shorthand — there's a heap of juicy details to these scenes, and Barresi's videographer, Max Meister, gets his camera right in there

impressed with Cynthia Manley. I am sure Daddy Philip Turner was spinning in his grave. You may recall this "diva" was the one who was pulled off the stage at a recent Mr. San Francisco Leather contest because of her "conduct unbecoming an entertainer." Harrumph!!

Finally, it's the holiday season, and time to shop till you drop. Give generously, support worthy fund raising efforts, and walk tall and proud. Do it all in leather! Happy Thanksgiving! ▼

where the previously maligned glare of lighting is now appreciated for revealing all.

Also appreciated is a lengthy locker room scene for beautiful muscle boy Rick Hammersmith. He's alone. With a dildo. He preens his cock and perks his nipple, then leans back and slides it in. His elaborately muscled body surges in all the right places as he writhes about once the thing's stuck all the way in. It's a most pleasing self-pleasuring.

Yet it's only a prelude. Dante strolls in, looking sexy and swell in his bright red wrestler's singlet. He pays no attention to either the dildo stuck up Hammersmith's butt or the puddle of cum on his buddy's belly, like this happens every day in the locker room, and invites Hammersmith to join him in a couple rounds on the mat. Who could decline such an invitation? Some tastily erotic grappling is followed by a good slam fuck.

Comes the video's finale, and Anthony Shaw gets what he wants. Which, of course, is what we want. Top billed Matt Spencer is gonna bang him blue. Spencer's got a mighty cock with a bulging head. When that thing gets fully up, it's like Mt. Rushmore: you can't really believe it, but there it is right in front of you, really big. Shaw gives it proper adulation before it's buried to the hilt in his ass. There are some lovely overhead shots, with Shaw's delicately sculpted collarbone crowning the flare of his breasts, the flat plain of his tautly muscled torso stretching to a pinched waist, over which thrusts his picture perfect hard-on, under which pumps the ass invading Spencer. Whatta finale. Welcome to Studio 2000, Mr. Barresi. *Playing Dirty* is a fairly jaunty porno. ▼

For further juicy details, surf www.Studio2000videos.com

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Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Wednesday, Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt was named "The Mama of Daddy's" (complete with a vest and a tag), and on Thursday, Briggs Hawley was named Daddy of the Year and Nick Mills was named Employee of the Year. I would say that the local talent was great with Donna Sachet, T.J. Istvan and Sheba and David Kloss MC'ing with Donna. I was not

OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



The key to evolution: DJ Logos

'Rx' for the soul

In the days after the attack, when mainstream radio had banned Rage Against the Machine and other incendiary acts, the craving for rebellion surged through me. If a wide-spread suppression of dissenting voices in America was to result from the terrorists' acts, then the terrorists had already won.

Fortunately I knew just where to go to experience controlled dissent in all its fiery musical glory — the basement of Club 220 (the former New Meat Campus Theater), nestled snug in the heart of the Tenderloin. There my dear friend and frequent musical collaborator DJ Logos, as always, had a prescription for feeling better: Play the most anarchic, chaotic, revolutionary music possible.

It was magic. On this particular night, not a lot of people were in the Arena — the basement space where Logos presides over the turntables and CD spinners as erotic performers and paying customers go about the pleasure of getting intimately acquainted. I felt wholly liberated from flag-waving patriotism and anti-free-speech as Logos played "We've Gotta Have Peace" off Consolidated's *Friendly Fascism* album (a project of Mark Pistel of Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy). I danced to the sounds of women and children screaming, bombs falling, and other war horrors as Logos played The Black Dog's "Babylon," with Ofra Haza, elegantly merged with Banco de Gaia's "Glove Puppet." As customers made the rounds looking for human contact, and go go boys flitted in and out, looking for tips, the sounds of chaotic uprising, swathed in haunting melodies and replete with curious with sound effects, filled Club 220's entire basement, creating a Temporary Autonomous Zone (TAZ) — a psychic safe space suitable for faeries, freaks, geeks, ordinary guys into extraordinary experiences, and anyone seeking spiritual solace in defiant music, liberated sexuality, and sensuous surroundings.

Though we had the space mostly to ourselves that night (everyone was home watching the war on TV), word has been getting about the magical sets Logos spins at Club 220, and patrons have started flocking his way for doses of his rare musical medicine. To meet the demand, Logos and friends are collaborating on putting together a new Sunday night TAZ called "Rx," just what the shaman ordered. I've volunteered to spread the word.

As Logos describes it, "Rx" will be a place for "holistic relaxation" each Sunday night from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Club 220. In addition to his superior DJ styling (which more often explores realms of beauty and mystery than hell-fire and brimstone), multidisciplinary body work will be offered by skilled practitioners. Artwork will be featured, with new creations and experiments each week in video, painting, sculpture, multimedia and the like. There'll be an opening ritual, tarot readings by Anthony, and other enchantments.

Logos says he's offering "Rx" as a space for public rituals, and "an experiment in full-immersion interactive theater." He says: "I want my audience to evolve. I want to hand them keys that will allow them to make choices about their evolution." In this he mirrors the sentiments of biologist and dolphin communicator John C. Lilly: "I feel that I am merely an agent, giving you some keys that have been given to me to pass on to you. These keys are to unlock doors out of your present prisons, doors leading to new dimensions."

With Logos in charge, "Rx" promises to be a TAZ with a queer twist, a place to relax into bliss, to be stroked in every possible sense, to experience the sound, sight and feel of higher consciousness. ▼

"Rx" with DJ Logos takes place every Sunday night, 5 - 10 p.m. at Club 220 (220 Jones St., at Turk). Admission is \$15.

Eg

DNA Lounge

"Slick," the fetish ball, a parade of corsets, leather, vinyl, PVC, latex, rubber, fishnet, dark velvet, lush make-up, bondage, androgyny, period erotica, long gloves, and spiky shoes. All genders. It's a fashion-oriented affair, not a sex club (access to the separate playspace is determined strictly on appearance and demeanor). Featuring rope bondage by Two Knotty Boys and a fashion show by Stormy Leather. \$20. 9pm-3am. 375 11th St. (btwn Folsom & Harrison). Info/tix: 536-9424; www.clubslick.com; www.UnSpunRecords.com

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

ODC/SF presents the 15th annual production of *The Velveteen Rabbit*, the story of a powerful relationship between a boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love. Choreographed and directed by KT Nelson; featuring ODC's energetic and imaginative dancing, recorded narration by legendary actor/clown Geoff Hoyle, and music by composer Benjamin Britten. Suitable for ages 3 and up. \$15-\$38. 2pm. Thru Dec. 9. (times vary). Info/tix: 978-2787; www.YerbaBuenaArts.org

Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church

Authors' reception and readings: Four books are presented, including *Gifted by Otherness* — Gay and Lesbian Christians in the Church, by M.R. Ritley and L. William Countryman. Based on retreats they have presented to churches and seminaries, the authors explore what it means to affirm, not merely accept, being gay or lesbian as well as Christian. Free. 6:30pm. 500 De Haro St. (at Mariposa, Potrero Hill). Info: 255-8100.

Sat

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoors lovers for a Purissima Redwoods hike. Enjoy the trail along the creeks and through the Redwoods leading to views of the ocean. It's a moderate 9-mile hike with a 1,300-ft. elevation gain. Meet 9am under the large Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

ATA Gallery

Other Cinema presents "Outsider Art," featuring works about oddball artists, including the California premiere of Vanessa Renwick's "Richart," about Richard Tracey, a 67-year old collage artist in Centralia, Washington, who has transformed the three yards around his house into a junk-sculptural playground; Ellen Spiro's "Atomic Ed and the Black Hole," about a former Los Alamos Lab worker who has set up a second-hand store for non-radioactive high-tech discards from the lab; and Scott Becker's "Gridlock Point," on folk artist Stu Buehler, a desert (pack-) rat practically buried under an avalanche of his own assem-

blage. Plus Harrold "Art Car" Blank in person. Free fruit cake. \$5. 8:30pm. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St. Info: 824-3890.

Swedish American Hall

The San Franciscans present "The Butch Brunch," a feast of food, fellowship and fun for hunky men, served by Chef Dennis Tyler of A Unique Chef. \$15 donation. 11am-2pm. 2174 Market St. (near 15th St. & Sanchez intersection).

Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center

"Celebration of Craftswomen," the largest women's fine crafts fair in the nation, now in its 23rd year, a showcase of innovative new works by more than 300 women artists, plus live music, dance, gourmet food and drink, a silent auction, and raffle. A benefit for the SF Women's Bldg. \$7 (\$5 seniors) day pass; \$10 two-day pass. 10am-6pm. Also Nov. 25 and Dec. 1-2. Buchanan St. & Marina Blvd. Info: 383-3470.

952 Howard St.

"ArtSF Benefit," a super-cool dance party with live performers, cutting-edge DJs, an out-of-this world art gallery, a black-light chill lounge, and internet broadcast. ArtSF is a nonprofit foundation for evicted artists to help them gain direct ownership of work and live/work spaces. \$15-\$1,000 sliding (tilted toward artistic merit). 9pm-late. Info: 430-2160 ext. 9412; ArtSF.org

Sun

Pacific Center, Berkeley

"United Genders of the Universe," an all-ages genderqueer group for anyone who views gender as having more than two options. Meets



The elegant Wesla Whitfield lights up the Plush Room. See Wednesday.

every Sunday at 7pm at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. Info: 510-548-8283.

Old First Church

Old First Concerts presents Nik Phelps & The Sprocket Ensemble performing original works by Nik Phelps, including animated-film accompaniments and a world premiere concert piece, "First Things First." With interview and Q&A period moderated by pianist Mike Greensill. \$12 (\$9 students/seniors). 4pm. 1751 Sacramento St. (at Van Ness). Tix/info: 474-1608; ticketweb.org; www.oldfirstconcerts.org

Cafe Du Nord

"Junk," with DJs Zanne and Junkyard, the return of the fierce queer club that rocked SF through the '90s. Queers and freaks of all stripes and genders welcome. Zanne & Junkyard spin funk, punk, hip-hop, triphop, bigbeat, disco, ska, salsa, batucada, bhangra, rai, big band swing, bossanova, rap, tango, cha cha cha and more. \$5. 9pm-2am. 2170 Market St. (btwn Church & Sanchez).

26 Mix

Vinsantos and Lu Read present "Transfusion," a gender-twisted evening of queer

entertainment and trouble featuring performances by Vinsantos, Fudgie Frottage, and more kick-ass local celebrity drag kings and queens. DJs Stephanie Phillips and DJ Taffy D spin rock, punk, glam and new wave. \$5 in Drag, otherwise \$6. 8pm - 2am. located on Mission Street between 26th and Caesar Chavez. Info: 282-5378.

El Rio

Benefit concert: The Planning Commission (a side project of Pansy Division's Jon Ginoli, devoted to doing satirical songs about SF politics), Shmoogie, and other bands play to raise funds for Sound-Safe, an activist organization led by former Downtown Rehearsal Studios tenants. Their mission is to develop a center for live music, dance, music rehearsal and art in SF. \$12 minimum donation. Doors Open 7pm; show at 8pm. 3158 Mission St. (btwn Caesar Chavez & Valencia).

Powerhouse

"Trash," a retro-homo club with DJ Bus Station John (Back to the Brig and Alcoholic Unanimous. Early '80s gay bar classics and curios from the Paradise Garage/NYC to the Trocadero Transfer/SF and beyond, in-

Cole Porter's *Leave It To Me!* plays in the 42nd St. Moon company production at Eureka Theatre. See Wednesday.

inkBoat perform *Cockroach* at Theater Artaud. See Wednesday.

cluding old-school hi-NRG, beatbox and Eurodisco. Cheap beer and men. Vintage videos. Smoking patio. No cover. 10pm-2am. 1347 Holloway Ave. Info: 905-8854.

Mon 26

Student Center, SFSU
"Associated Students Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair." Featuring more than 40 vendors of fine handcrafted. Live music daily at noon. Free. 9am-7pm. Thru Nov. 29. Caesar Chavez Student Center, SF State University, 1650 Holloway Ave. Info: 338-2444.

848 Community Space
"QComedy Showcase." Monday Night Gay Comedy, this week hosted by Janis Lipton, with performers Blake, Erin Souza, Dana Cory, Ronn Vigh, Marti MacGibbon, and others. \$8 sliding (NO-TAFLOF). 8:30pm. 848 Divisadero St. (btwn Fulton & McAllister). Info: 541-5610; www.QComedy.com

Tue 27

Theatre on the Square
Extended through New Year's Eve: Lily Tomlin stars in "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe," written and directed by Jane Wagner. \$35-\$50. 8pm (7:30pm Sun.; 3pm Sat. & Sun matinees). 450 Post St. Info/tix: 433-9500; www.TheatreontheSquare.com

Green Room

Composers, Inc. presents works by six contemporary American composers. Scott Wheeler (piano trio), James Matheson (violin, cello, piano), Nancy Bachmann (piccolo clarinet), Lee Hyla (bass clarinet, baritone sax), Kamran Ince (alto sax, piano, percussion), and David Lang (violin & piano). \$18 (\$12 students/seniors/disabled). 8pm. Veterans Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 512-0641; www.composersinc.org

Intersection for the Arts

Intersection and Campo Santo present "Readings from the Mission: 2," in which writer-in-residence Naomi Iizuka unveils the first public reading of a new play that pays homage to The Mission District. The audience will have the rare opportunity to work with this critically acclaimed playwright to investigate notions

of neighborhood, history, duality, mystery and theatricality. \$9-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 446 Valencia St. (btwn 15th & 16th). Info: 626-2787.

Hotel Utah

DivaBands presents rockers Michelle Tanner, Ramana Vieira, and Mary Kelly. \$5. 8pm. 500 Fourth St. (at Bryant). Info: 546-6300.

Wed 28

Plush Room

Jazz/cabaret song stylist Wesla Whitfield presents "Are We Havin' Any Fun?" — a celebration of life in challenging times, with songs by Gershwin, Porter, Arlen and other jewels from the American Songbook. With bassist Bill Douglas. \$20 Wed., Thu., Sun.; \$25 Fri. & Sat. 8pm. (3pm Sun.). The York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix: 885-2800.

Herbst Theatre

City Arts & Lectures presents an evening with author Isabel Allende, whose first novel, *House of Spirits*, a tale of human conditions and passions that lead to historical change and displacement, made her an international favorite. Her latest novel is *Portrait in Sepia*. She is the niece of assassinated Chilean President Salvador Allende, and now lives in the Bay Area. Interviewed by Patricia Holt. \$18. 8pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix: 392-4400.

Eureka Theatre

Preview: 42nd Street Moon presents Cole Porter's "Leave

It To Me!" Local cabaret favorite Darlene Popovic stars in this Porter confection about a Kansas wife who maneuvers her unwilling husband into international politics as US Ambassador to Russia. \$15 previews (also Nov. 29); \$22 Thu.; \$25 Fri., Sat. & Sun. 215 Jackson St. (btwn Battery & Front). Tix/info: 255-8207; www.42ndSt-Moon.com

Theater Artaud

"Cockroach," a highly imaginative fusion of sonically driven Butoh dance and Physical Theater performed by inkBoat under the direction of Shinichi Momo Koga. An 80-minute, full-length work, "Cockroach" is an explosion of memory created by the death rattle of a man who has just taken poison. This abstract story centers on the dreamlike characters created by memories that change and warp as the moment of death nears. Shadow, time, space and fantasy collide in this darkly humorous piece. \$15 & \$18. 8pm. Wed.-Sat., Nov. 28-Dec. 8. 450 Florida St. (at 17th St.). Tix/info: 621-7797; www.theaterartaud.org

Thu 29

Studio @ Rhino

The Half Baked Players perform "Pop 'n Fresh Plays," an evening of spicy theatrical confections. See Obie Award winner Ann Lobst perform "Naked Lady" in the nude; watch a frenzied Garret Jon Groenewald dissect the myth of

"the Perfect Guy"; listen to Bomb Punani (Leanne Borghesi and Sharon Boggs) put a croak back into karaoke; sample tasty new works by Prince Gomolivas and newly dyed redhead Sara James; and experience the euphonious baritone of Marcus De Costa. Hosted by outrageous lesbian comedian Chantall Carrere. \$10. 8:30pm Thu.-Sat., Nov. 29-Dec. 1; 7:30pm Sun., Dec. 2. 8pm (6pm Sat.; 2pm Sun.). Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

Intersection for the Arts

World Premiere: Campo Santo and Intersection present "floating weeds" by Philip Kan Gotanda, the story of down-and-out people in search of home, and of finding emotional sustenance in the most unexpected ways. It examines the boundaries of intimacy when extreme need inspires behavior beyond the norm. Directed by Loy Arceñas. Featuring Noel Benozza, Temple Crocker, Margo Hall, and Sean San José. \$9-\$15. Thursdays are "Pay What You Can." Thru Dec. 23. 446 Valencia St. (btwn 15th & 16th). Tix: 626-3311.

Modern Times Bookstore

Eileen Myles reads from *Skies*, her latest book of poetry. She is the author of *Cool for You*, a semi-autobiographical novel that explores growing up female, queer and literary in white, working-class Boston. With *Skies*, she delivers a timely voice of dissent overshadowed by an endarkened political administration. She is a prolific scribe of plays, poems, and novels, and the editor of several anthologies, including *The New Fuck You*. Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th St.). Info: 282-9246; moderntimesbookstore.com

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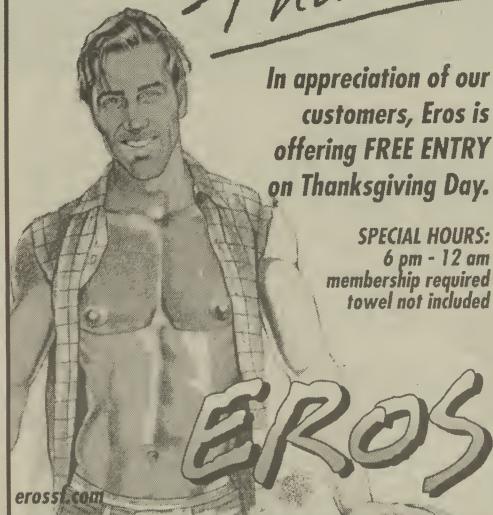
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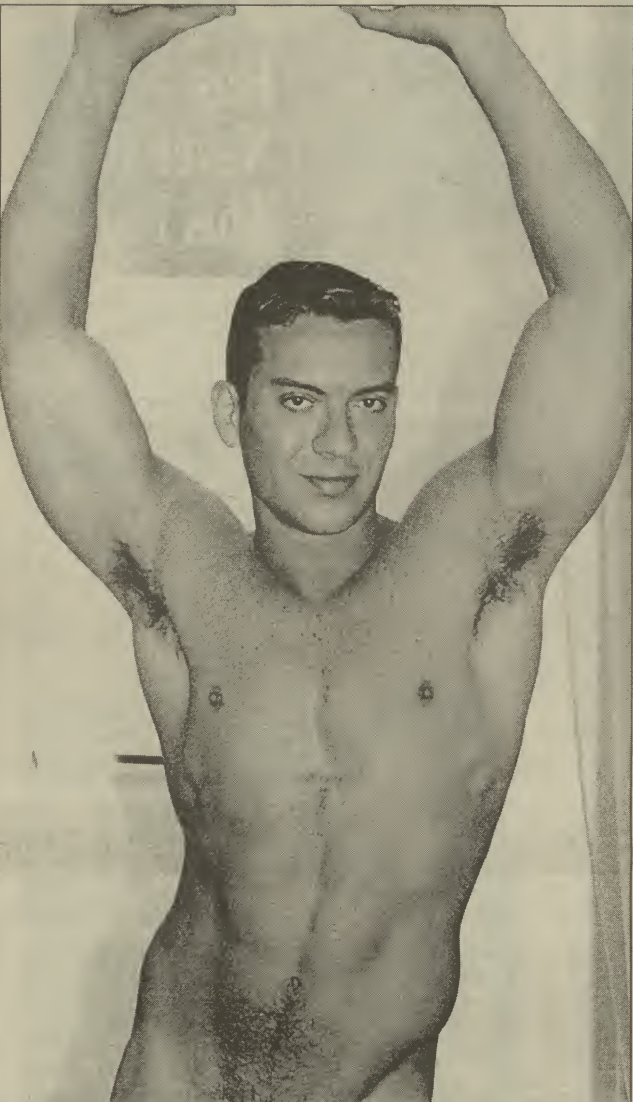
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Fort Mason comes alive with the annual "Celebration of Craftswomen." See Saturday.

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PARTING GLANCES

SF Badlands, Sun, 21 Oct, 7:00
You: BM, musc, wearing ball cap, standing near entrance with friends. Me: WM, goatee, wearing ball cap with Japanese writing. We: Immediately caught each others eyes with I entered with a friend. I'm visiting from NYC but you would be worth a return visit. ☎ 71132

Tues 10/23 Bell Mkt, Noe Valley
You: red t-shirt, nice eyes. Me: lime green striped polo shirt and jeans. Saw you in produce, then four people behind me in line. Let's go shopping together sometime. ☎ 71133

Webster Safeway 10/23/01 4:20pm
Me: brown plaid shirt, jeans, s/p hair. You: short hair, great face, smile. You said "wanna dance?" I smiled and should have said "I'd love too!" Try again? Call me. ☎ 71156

Cute Italian @ Open Studios
Sat 10/20 I tended bar. You wore a red turtleneck, black leather jacket. Our eye contact lasted long after I gave you a beer. Let's meet for a drink, Ed. ☎ 71157

Sun, 10/28 Ft. Funstn Frontrunnr
You: adorable smile and adorable dog. Me: running by (twice) with group. Let's meet for a date, a run, or a game of fetch with our dogs. ☎ 71158

~Leaving Club Universe 10/27~
You: Latin & White dude. Me: slender GAM holding hands w/ my Black male friend in yellow shorts. I turned my head back, you guys did too. Let's hook up! ☎ 71169

Thrift Store "Treasure"
You, sexy dealer, long pony tail. Me, dark beard, baseball cap. Searched, "everyday" for you, a real Treasure. Where are you? I collect also. Would enjoy collecting you! ☎ 71181

Sports Baseball, Sun 11/11/01
You: Black running tights, very hot man. Partner in shorts buying shoes, yum could eat you both up. Let's meet. ☎ 71182

Walter Calart, Oak
Store is closing. How will I tell you, I'd like to know you. But I'm to shy. Me, bld, bearded cowboy hat with photos of gold leaf wall. Call me. ☎ 71183

Beautiful Boy On Bike
Monday eve Nov. 5, Mission by Duboce. Me driving gold truck, dark hair, goatee, turned at Duboce. Lost you. Love to take you out. ☎ 71184

Fri 9 Nov 10:45am L Train
You: drk bld cutie, on at Church St. sit across from, Me: muscular Bk guy, with Macy's bag & back pack. Want to look into your eyes. Call me. ☎ 71185

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Skq Older Sex-Compatible Male
Me: attr, masc, pleasant, affectionate, alternative, literate, 45, HIV+, 6'2", 175, leather curious. You: patient, funny, friendly, progressive, prof., dominant, handsome, NS, ND, HIV+, tall, cut, hairy, verbal, kinky, 47-58. ☎ 71134

Weekend Of Sex
WM 40 bmn/brn stocky seeks man of any race, age, build. For sex after work and weekends. I'm in the East Bay. Very discreet. ☎ 71135

Masculine WM Seeks BM Dating
Muscular, handsome, adventurous, ambitious intelligent HIV+ early 30's seeks Blackmen 25-40 for friendship, dating even better if relationship evolves. Herb ok, no twerkers please! ☎ 71136

Sexy, Sane, Seasoned ISO Same
Good-looking PGWM, tall, very fit, smooth seeks gay man, 45+, fit, grounded for repeat wild gigs and hopefully more. ☎ 71137

Santa Rosa Native!
SWM, 40, 5'10", 170#, ex-navy. Red hair, enjoys outdoors, talk radio, exercise. Seeks female relationship. ☎ 71138

Looking For Companion Friend
Please be under 40, very trim, handsome GQ type want to spend quality and intimate time, share feelings, travel weekend getaways. Please help Asian man 65 to enjoy life. ☎ 71139

Semi-Normal, Employed HIV+ GWM
Looking, but don't want to get married on the 2nd date. Someone with common sense that can think on his own. Not 100% either way. 32, 6'1", 215#. ☎ 71140

In Shape GWM HIV+ Man
Handsome 42, 6'1", 190 dark hair/moustache masculine bottom/vers, enjoys gym, sports, movie, food. New to city, looking for GWM top/vers who enjoys similar interest w/o bar scene. ☎ 71141

Fuck & Piss Slave Wanted!
Seeking a bottom/drinker who's spiritually based and erotically driven. Master is handsome, early 40's, 5'10", 175lbs, br/bl, moustache, in nice shape. UB2. Fuck with condoms. Single men only. ☎ 71143

HIV+GBM Top Seeks HIV+ GWM
39 6ft 160 GBM top seeks small build, smooth submissive GWM under 40. A+ for boys with tight butts, & good cocksuckers. ☎ 71159

Oral Expert
Attractive Black male 5'9", 158 48, HIV- shaved head seek White male 50 to 65 well endowed for hours of fun. ☎ 71160

Poz Loner Seeks Same
Dark, smooth, muscular, masculine Blackguy; bookish techie, quiet, doesn't socialize. 5'10", 180, 44, 31" waist, 44" chest, nice body. In bed: non-verbal, affectionate. Seeking muscular, masculine cohort. ☎ 71161

Let's Set The Nights To Music
GWM ISO good looking masculine men for friendship, sex, possibly more. I like the outdoors-quiet romantic nights at home, loving one another and building a life together. Let's make it happen. ☎ 71162

GWM Seeks GLM Or GBM Top
Easy going bottom 45, 5'10", HIV- seeks easy going top, 35-55. Me blond/gray hair, big blue eyes little chunky- not a lot. Good guy. Pls call. ☎ 71170

Hairy-Chested Construction Worker
Looking to fill you up- ISO masculine men. ☎ 71171

~GBM Looking For Love~
Black male looking for other males to date. Me: 38 look 20 something, HIV-. You be 25-55 and HIV- and looking for relationship. Please call, thanks. ☎ 71172

GWM 28
Stocky gym build, trim waist, looking for a similar man to date. Monogamously, I prefer, dark skin and thick thighs. ☎ 71173

35 GAM Seeking GWM
Professional 5'7", 150, seeking sincere GWM under 42 like traveling, eating out, movies, reading. ☎ 71174

Poz GBM ISO GWM Top
6ft, 170, 40 poz GBM top to service. Prefer slim under 45. Tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 71186

Handsome Healthy Sexy Normal Guy
39 looking to settle down in caring Ltr. Me: 6', 190lbs, moustache, fun genuine, kinda furry, in-shape. Prefer beefy, cuddly, facial hair, sweet and caring guy to play house with. ☎ 71187

Oral Service
Masculine White man 5'10", 170#, 7" u/c large balls, HIV negative, DDf, healthy, need regular service. ☎ 71142

"Football- Built"
Bk, 50, 5'10", 220, chest 50", aggressive, strong, loving, kissable, suckable, safe, long hair, strong legs, swollen nipples, strong buns, 10"/6" 1/2" round, serious no fats or fems. ☎ 71188

SEEKING ADVENTURE

"Party Pals!"
Handsome SWGM 39 years old who likes to party and have hot safe sex! Ages 35-40 in East Bay. Leave message. Don ☎ 71144

Hot WM Lng For S.Vale Bear/Dad
6'1", 230lbs, 8" tool, very clean, ub-2. Hot 40y.o. in Sunnyvale looking for hot dad/bear- type in the S. Valle/S. Bay Area for day & nite fun. ☎ 71145

West Sonoma Co. Cock Sucker
Sweet sensuous mouth for long suck sessions. Play with my nips and look in my eye while I swallow your meat. ☎ 71146

Dirty Old Man!
(No sense of decency whatsoever). Seeking bad ass butt boy. ☎ 71147

Top ISO Fuckable Mouth/Butt
GWM, 50's, 5'10", 185, short hair, goatee, top ISO fuckbut bottom. Don't care about looks, age but more comfortable with real men than pretend boys. Appreciate enthusiasm and endurance. ☎ 71148

"Just Shut Up And Ride!"
WM 36, 5'10", 200lbs blond/blue clean cut muscle guy wants good looking masculine men to screw. Call anytime. ☎ 71149

If Size Matters To You...
I'm sure you'll find my sweet, juicy Black meat impressive. But I need an oral expert who can satisfy, not just try. Be mature, masculine, easy to reach (no machines). ☎ 71150

Anonymous Deep Throat Head
BI WM HIV- 40s dominant very masculine likes getting off down an expert deep throat in dark private places if you are HIV- submissive in shape & hungry. ☎ 71151

Good looking Montana Cowboy
New to area seeks a/w smooth clean shaven under 40 feminine gentle patient for w/horny open minded. Beginner to learn guy/guy sex to do everything top to bottom. ☎ 71152

Service From Boyish Asian
I am seeking smooth, muscular, gym toned White or Asian males to give massage, oral, and J/O service. Relax and let go! ☎ 71163

Cock Slave/Worshiper Service...
Big bulge jockboys who love to be verbal, dominant, j/o, face fuck show off, get a little kinky with mature, fit, handsome Italian guy. ☎ 71164

Sonoma Co. Show-Offs Wanted
Love to watch you Jack off, esp. in semi-public. Photos or videos? Follow-up head and/or rimming if desired. Exceptional talent. Daytime only. ☎ 71165

In Search Of White Man
I am a Latin male searching for you. Do not have to be hung, I am looking for man 24yrs old. I need a small penis 5" to 6". ☎ 71175

Just Shut Up And Ride
WM 36 5'10", 200lbs blond/blue cleancut muscle guy wants good looking masculine men to screw. Call anytime. ☎ 71189

"Small -Penises"
Don't care about size. I love asses and nipples on a male. Let me love you for just that time we are together. No fats or fems. ☎ 71191

Weightlifting Nude
Have bench, barbell, dumbbells. Come over, workout, or watch me workout. Am 48, 5'10", 190. ☎ 71192

Need To Jack-Off?
Are you into kissing, tit play and long J/O? Let's do it together. I'm 58, tall, slim, positive, mix-breed, uncult and ready to pull it. ☎ 71193

I need Condom Practice...
Previously had trouble keeping one on my 8 inch. Seeking a mature, conservative appearing bottom; moustache a plus. I'm mature, hung, Black. Fast but intense scene. ☎ 71194

Gay Artists: I'm Looking For
Gay Artist to get together to discuss art as well as other things. Also for fun and good times. Call me. ☎ 71195

Are U Craving For A Fantasy?
Steaming hot pleasures only for you. Am into anything that makes us happy, satisfied. Am HIV(-), 30's stocky Pacific Islander willing to fulfill your dreams. Let's make it come true. ☎ 71196

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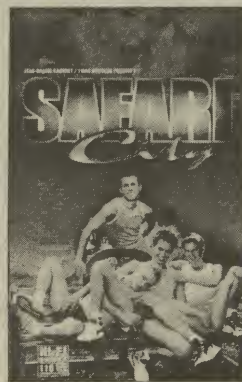
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Snapshots from Hell

Richard Kern's hardcore collection on DVD

by Gary Morris

Transgression seems more like concept than reality in these no-boundaries days, but in the '80s and early '90s there was in fact a Cinema of Transgression, a mini-movement devoted to the far fringes of sex and violence among alienated, tribal urban youth. Based in New York City and closely allied with the music of Sonic Youth, Jim Thirlwell (of Foetus fame), Dream Syndicate, et al., its luminaries included Nick Zedd, Lydia Lunch, Beth B, Lung Leg, and most notably, Richard Kern.

Kern, born in 1954, has had a dual career as photographer and filmmaker, but in both realms he works the same themes and motifs: New York as Boschian hellhole, pierced and pouting drug-swilling youth, Mansonesque tableaux of guts and gore (rendered in cheesy special effects), big guns, big knives, big dicks, and rough hardcore sex. This DVD (\$29.95 list price) collects about half of his short films (180 minutes' worth) spanning 1985 to 1992. These snapshots from hell run from a few minutes to more than half an hour, shot in video and Super 8 (often in black-and-white), starring Kern's sleazy stock company and friends: Lynch, Zedd, Henry Rollins, Karen Finley, David Wojnarowicz, Lung Leg. Kern himself appears occa-

sionally, making up in dick size what he lacks in star power.

One of the earliest entries here is the 1985 *The Right Side of My Brain*, which could have been subtitled "Or Salvation Through Face Fucking." This exercise in psychosis and paranoia stars Lydia Lunch (who also wrote some of the droning, dissonant music) as an urban casualty who talks in voiceover about being "sucked into an endless vacuum" and entering "a place where reality was no longer necessary." The usual rituals of daily life are suspended in this study in psychological freefall, as Lunch spends her time squirming in bed, undressing, fondling her tits, and submitting to some violent sex with a mysterious grunge boy with a gun. New York never looked so grim, reduced here to dilapidated apartments and dirty streets that recall 42nd Street before it was sanitized for Mickey Mouse.

Slay us

Also from 1985 is *You Killed Me First*, inspired by John Waters. This critique of middlebrow American life has hilariously bad, Waters-style declamatory acting by several of the superstars of '80s performance art. Zucchini-fucker Karen Finley plays Mom; dead art-queen David Wojnarowicz is Dad; and Lung Leg, the '80s answer to Mink Stole, is the demented daughter who screams, "I really hate you!" and "You're just as disgusting as I am!" before mowing down the family at a Thanksgiving dinner. Waters isn't the only influence here. The Warhol/Morrissey touch is noticeable in mangled dialogue that Kern doesn't bother to reshoot. Like both Waters and Warhol/Morrissey, Kern gives full play to the personalities of his stars, and La Leg is probably as crazed in real life as she is here. Despite the tinny trappings and amateurish feel, *You Killed Me First* succeeds as a grainy portrait of a particular time and place.

One of Kern's most ambitious works is *Fingered* (1986), whose sarcastic disclaimer reads, "Although it is not our sole intention to shock, insult, or irritate, you have been warned that we are catering only to our own preferences as members of the sexual minority." The film opens with Lydia Lunch as a phone-sex operator chatting up an adult baby who turns on her: "You don't give one good fuck for me, do you Mommy!" From there, the film devolves into an evil road trip with Lydia and her boyfriend, who have rough sex and assault various friends, strangers, and a hitchhiker played by poor Lung Leg. There are echoes of Terence Malick's *Badlands* and of course the Manson family here. Typical of Kern's world, gratification must be immediate, and every slight, real or not, is answered with a knife in the gut or a gun in the head — or a mouth on a dick. The ever-versatile Lunch provides some of the music here.

Two of Kern's more notorious works are *Submit to Me* (1985) and *Submit to Me Now* (1987), which

dispense with narrative entirely, being simply a record of brief performances by some of Kern's friends and actors. Self-mutilation, crucifixion, bondage, blow jobs, and other diversissements are on florid display here, serenaded by the music of the Butthole Surfers. Kern himself appears in the 1993 *My Nightmare*, which features masturbation (by the naked Kern), spanking, and bondage scenes. In the quasi-epic (35-minute) omnibus film *Manhattan Love Suicides* (1985), a loopy David Wojnarowicz's arm falls off, and he's

sketched by a creepy artist.

Kern's background as a photographer is evident in the attention to posing by his characters, and their general objectification. In the 1992 *The Bitches* (not to be confused with Chabrol's *Les Biches*), Annabelle and Linda (per the credits) glare, dress up, give attitude, change clothes, curl their hair, read, smolder, and make over an anonymous guy who also glares, gives attitude, etc. They abandon these formal rituals briefly to jack off their new buddy, and he eventually embraces more of their in-

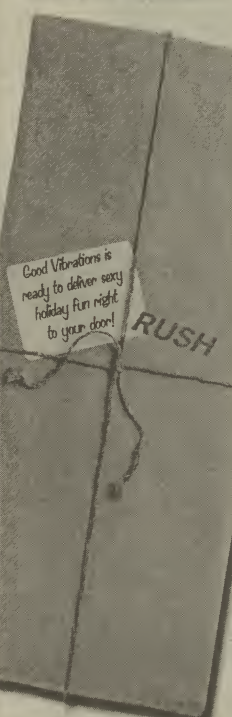
sure in the literal suppression of female sexuality.

Despite his work's arguable misogyny, often laughable special effects, and devotion to all things sleazy, Kern successfully showcases the fleeting pleasures of trading bourgeois life — and the angst that inevitably accompanies it — for sex, violence, drugs, and music. His films are at the very least a welcome tonic to those sleek, empty, picture-perfect teen dramas from the John Hughes school that occupied so much cultural space in the '80s. ▼



Richard Kern's films were part of New York City's Cinema of Transgression movement.

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Kim & Krista

◀ Arts cover

overcast, anyone would be hard-pressed to win over an outdoor audience. I'm shivering in my jacket. It's a testament to their talent that a clutch of fans made the show anyway, and stayed the entire two hours.

Baker and Enos struggle to think of a way to characterize their unique blend of rock and folk. "We play thoughtful rock," Enos suggests. The ballad writer of the duo, she's drawn to content and to the poetry of the lyrics.

Baker's the one who craves the rock-and-roll edge. "My philosophy all along," she explains, "has been taking the Indigo Girls, Joni Mitchell, Shawn Colvin — all those wonderful songwriters — and adding the Melissa Etheridge rock, merging them all together so you have harmonies singing, and two guitars, and —" Whack! She slams her hand on the table and grins. "And Kenny Aronoff."

That's the Kenny Aronoff, Melissa Etheridge's drummer. Voted #1 Studio Drummer by *Modern Drummer* magazine for the past five years, Aronoff is a living legend, yet Baker and Enos were able to recruit him to play on their newly released CD, *Rising Tide*. Aronoff's aggressive beat drives five of the tracks on their 12-song compilation.

In addition to Aronoff, Baker and Enos secured the talents of bassist Myron Dove (Santana) and guitarist Stef Burns (Alice Cooper, Huey Lewis and the News); the CD was produced by Cookie Marenco, the 6-time Grammy-nominated producer who has worked with artists such

as Charlie Hayden, Melissa Ferrick, and Mary-Chapin Carpenter.

On the air

Another vote of confidence in the duo comes from Liquid Audio. Six months ago, the company partnered with Radio and Records, a music source that tracks *Billboard* and which artists are getting airplay, along with other indicators, and the result is a new website called Music Meeting. The major record labels can place their artists' new singles on this website so radio stations nationwide can download the music to play on the air. Until now, the service has not been available to many independent musicians, but Liquid Audio offered Baker and Enos a special deal. "Now we're up there between Melissa Etheridge and Lenny Kravitz in the Triple-A radio section," Baker says.

College radio has been friendly to the pair, too, and Baker and Enos have performed on the na-

tionally syndicated Acoustic Café. Their first single, "Keep On," seems poised to take off.

While majoring in music at Mills College, where the two met, Baker took advantage of an exchange program and spent a semester at Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia. She was struck by Atlanta's music scene, which boasted such talented, out lesbian artists as Michelle Malone, Wendy Bucklew, Caroline Aiken, and of course, the Indigo Girls. Missing that communal atmosphere of mutual respect and support, Baker, along with Enos, recently launched the Women Who Rock Coalition. Its goal is to showcase women musicians in the Bay Area. Although the date for the first concert has yet to be set, it will take place at the Bottom of the Hill and feature Kim & Krista, Jill Knight, and Noelle Hampton. ▼

www.kimandkrista.com

Lavender Tube

◀ page 33

performance as host of the Emmys — which, given its previous basement-level ratings, is problematic. CBS might try a new time slot, but better writing would help more. The show simply doesn't have a consistent comedic base. Memo to the writers: Try watching *Will & Grace*. The competition has more than a good time slot.

Are *All My Children's* Bianca and Frankie lovers or not? The ambiguously lesbian duo is living together and everyone thinks they're a couple, but when they

aren't arguing about Bianca's mother Erica trying to run Frankie out of town, they're arguing about whether Frankie feels uncomfortable about being perceived as Bianca's bitch. So what's happening? Inquiring queers want to know. Certainly Bianca deserves a tumble — she's earned it.

Finally, a caustic quote of the week. *SNL* head writer Tina Fey, commented on Will Smith, discussing his sex life with *Premiere Magazine*. Fey quoted Smith: "I am a sex machine. I am Willagra." Fey deadpanned, "If you mean you sound like a dick, you're right." Who says we can't return to normalcy? ▼

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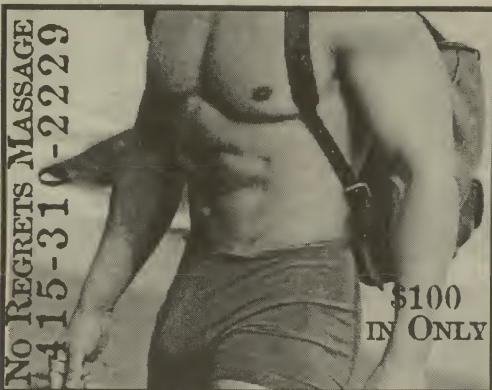
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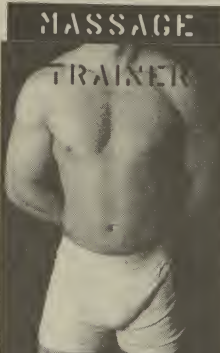
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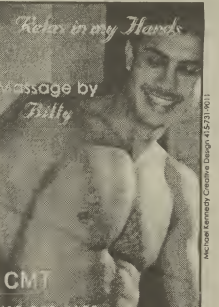
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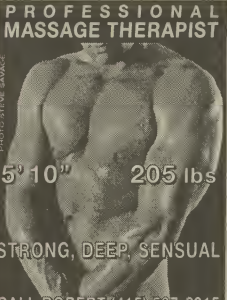
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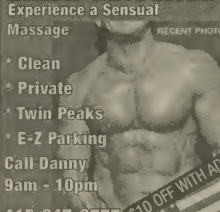
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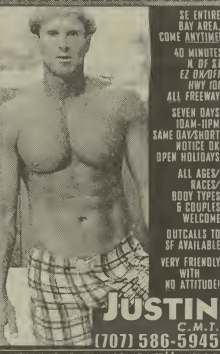


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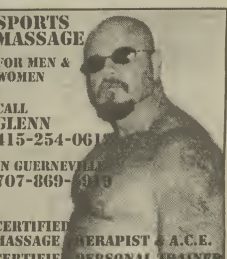
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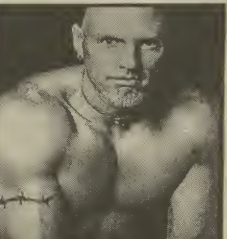
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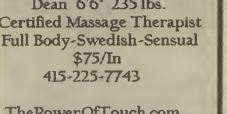
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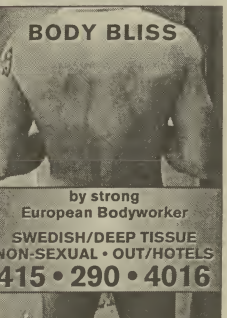
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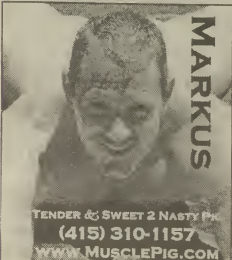
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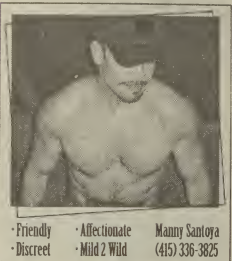
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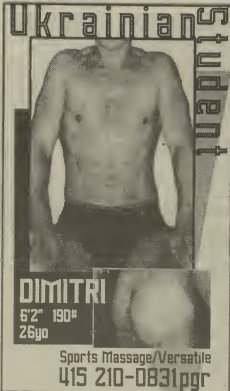
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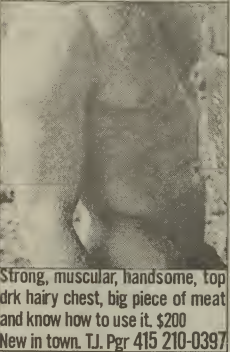
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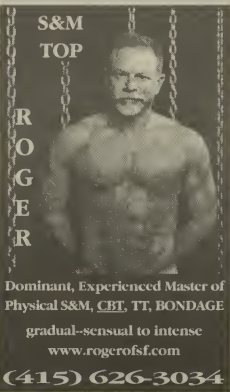
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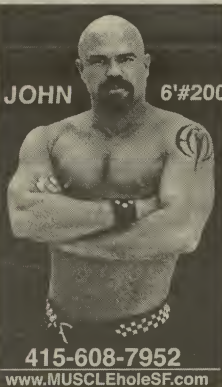
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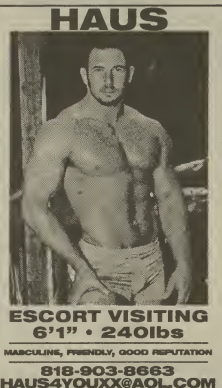
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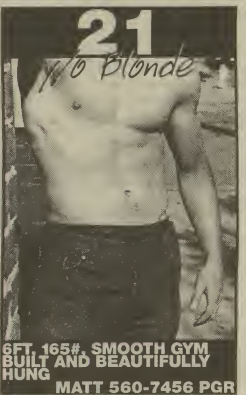
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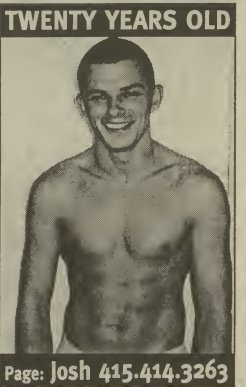
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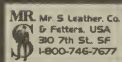
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